



Because I'm in Christ, We Can Submit to One Another



Key truths:

1. The Holy Spirit helps us submit to one another.

2. The way we relate to God and to others shows if we are filled with the Holy Spirit.

3. Being filled with the Holy Spirit looks different in a marriage, because it represents Christ relationship with the Church, his Bride.



Discussion Starters:

1. What are the signs of a person filled with the Holy Spirit, according to verses 19-21, 22, 25, 28, 33? Clue for kids: look for the verbs. Where have you seen instances of such Spirit filled living in your life? In your family? In your small group?

2. Verse 21-22 read "submit to one another out of reverence to Christ; wives, to your husbands, as to the Lord." Then v. 25 completes this picture when it says, just like in v. 2 ("and walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us"), "Husbands, love your wives, as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her." Even though all Christians should love each other like Christ loves the Church and submit to one another out of reverence to Christ, there's something special about the relationship between husband and wife. Why is it?

For Youth and above: Think about how culture and your upbringing has shaped your understanding of how to relate in a marital relationship. Where do you see agreement or disagreement with Biblical values?

For Mom: What does choosing to submit to your husband look like for you? What makes it hard? What makes it easy? Are there any ways God has blessed a decision to submit to him?

For Dad: What does choosing to love mom sacrificially look like for you? What makes it hard? What makes it easy? Are there any ways God has blessed a decision to sacrifice for her?

"Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children. And walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God." Ephesians 5:1-2

