

Male Leadership in Marriage

Eph 5:22 Wives, submit to your own husbands, as to the Lord. 23 For the husband is the head of the wife even as Christ is the head of the church, his body

Authority in Marriage

- In the context of marriage, the husband **is** the _____ (Eph 5:22-33)

Doug Wilson *Reforming Marriage*, 24 “Because the husband is the head of the wife, he finds himself in a position of *inescapable leadership*.”

What do you think about this idea of “inescapable leadership.”?

- A wife should _____ to her head (Eph 5:22-33; Col 3:18-19; Titus 2:3-5)
- A wife should _____ to, _____, and _____ her husband (1 Peter 3:1-7)

How is this hard for wives? How do husbands abuse their headship?

- Paul also affirmed headship when he addressed the practical matter of head coverings (1 Cor 11)

What do head coverings have to do with authority?

Egalitarian objections to head = authority

1. *kephale* (head) = ‘ _____ ’ or ‘ _____ ’

- What did Paul mean when he used it metaphorically (Eph 1:22-23; 4:15-16; 5:22-24; Col 1:15-18; 2:9-10)?

2. _____ submission (Eph 5:21 & 22)

5:21 ones-being-submissive to one-another in fear/reverence of Christ

5:22 the wives {ones-being-submissive} to the own husbands, as to the Lord

- The context of 5:21 is “...but be filled with the Spirit” How?

1) Make music! 2) Every day is ‘Thanksgiving’ 3) Submit to *respective* authorities (5:21-6:9)

3. Paul planted the seeds to throw off patriarchal culture at a later time

- Paul based his argument on _____ and the _____ (Eph 5:23-24)

Are you persuaded? How would you reason with a feminist? Egalitarian?

- Headship & Submission is baked into the whole of Creation: Submission of Christ to God (1 Cor 15:24-28); to God (James 4:7; Rom 8:7; 10:3); of all things to Christ (Psalm 2:8; 110:1; Eph 1:22; 5:24; Heb 2:5, 8; 1 Cor 15:27-28; 1 Pet 3:22); children to parents (Eph 6:1-3; Lk 2:51; Heb 12:9); young to elders (1 Peter 5:5); citizens to government authority (Rom 13:1-7; 1 Pet 2:13; Titus 3:1); slaves to masters (1 Pet 2:18; Titus 2:9; 1 Tim 6:1-2)
- Covenantal headship under the Mosaic Law (Numbers 30)

What are different ways that a wife submits, honoring, respecting, obeying her husband?

Where does the rubber meet the road? Where does this get hard for you?
