

Calvary Chapel of El Cajon Women's Bible Studies

1 Peter 3:1-7

Lesson 8

Submit?!?!? Who? Me? Can you relate? The answer is "Yes. You". Yes, you in whatever relationship you have been placed where there is authority. Prior verses in 1 Peter have taught us we are to submit to those in government authority, and to submit to masters (such as employers). Today's lesson instructs wives to submit to their own husbands. The Word of God commands it. Who? You? Yes. You and all wives who name the name of Jesus as their Savior. May your heart be tender towards all of God's desires for you.

DAY ONE: Read 1 Peter 3:1-7

1. Read through this week's verses using both your Observation Worksheet and another Bible translation or paraphrase. After reading through these verses, what would you say to someone if they asked you what they were about?
 - a. 1 Peter 3:1-7 has been divided into two paragraph divisions. List below the subject(s) covered in each section.

Verses 1-6

Verse 7

How would you title each section? Record your title on the **Chapter & Paragraph Division Titles Chart** provided with your Observation Worksheet.

2. At the right-hand side of the same chart are columns labeled **Key Words** and **Symbols**. They have been provided for you to record the key words and the symbol you have chosen to represent each one. Record the key words listed below and their symbols on the chart.

From previous lessons: *God*

New to this lesson: *submissive, wives/wife, husbands, and likewise*

Now, using the symbols you have chosen, mark each of the key words each time they are used in 1 Peter 3:1-7. Remember, as you mark the words *God, wives, and husbands* to mark any personal pronouns that refer to them.

3. Peter used the word *likewise* twice in 1 Peter 3:1-7 (verses 1 and 7). Thoughtfully record each verse below and underline who is being addressed.

DAY TWO: Read 1 Peter 3:1,2

1. A Christian wife has an incredible opportunity to influence the life of her husband. Consider this as you read 1 Peter 3:1,2. What do you learn about this from these verses?

- a. What do you think the word *likewise* refers to?

- b. Observe 1 Peter 3:1,2 NIV: *Wives, in the same way be submissive to your husbands so that, if any of them do not believe the Word, they may be won over without words by the behavior of their wives, when they see the purity and reverence of your lives.* Why is this kind of behavior from a wife so powerful?

2. God has designed an order for the marriage relationship. Use Ephesians 5:22-24 to explain the 1 Peter 3:1a instruction: *wives...be submissive to your own husbands.*

- a. Record what 1 Corinthians 11:3 reveals about God's order.

- b. This does not mean women are inferior to men. Neither does it mean that single women are inferior to those who are married. How do the following verses confirm this?

Galatians 3:28

1 Corinthians 7:32-34

- c. Read Genesis 2:18. What does this say to you about the role of a wife?

3. Think about the importance of *pure and reverent behavior* (1 Peter 3:2b Phillips) to our witness as Christian women. What affect should this have on us today?

DAY THREE: Read 1 Peter 3:3,4

1. The instructions of 1 Peter 3:3,4 are directed to wives, but are applicable for all women. We will take two days of our lesson to concentrate on these valuable verses. Here Peter contrasts external and internal adornment. What do verses 3,4a say about our adornment?

- a. *Do not let your adornment be*

- b. *rather let it be*

- 1.) What do these verses suggest to you about a woman's appearance?

2. Consider one reason the adornment *of the heart* is more important than the outer adornment by filling in the blank from 1 Peter 3:4b.

with the _____ beauty

- a. Our internal adornment is *incorruptible*. It is beyond the reach of time and decay. What message is there in this for us today?

3. In response to the instruction of 1 Peter 3:3,4b how can we, as Christian women, resist the world's excessive preoccupation with *outward* appearance?

- a. List a few practical ways we can improve our inward beauty.

DAY FOUR: Read 1 Peter 3:3,4

1. Look once again at 1 Peter 3:3,4 concentrating on verse 4c. Discover what is *very precious in the sight of God*.
 - a. Define the following words:
gentle

quiet
 - b. What is the opposite of a *gentle and quiet spirit*?
 - c. Recall from 1 Peter 2:22,23 Jesus' example. How does having a *gentle and quiet spirit* affect our reactions and relationships?

2. A *gentle and quiet spirit* does not mean a Christian woman should not be productive and active. How does the virtuous woman of Proverbs 31:10-31 exemplify this?
 - a. What especially speaks to you from her example?

3. Take a moment to think about the value the Lord places on the 1 Peter 3:4 attitudes and behavior as you consider the following: *which is very precious in the sight of God*. How should this motivate us to follow the instructions of 1 Peter 3:3,4?
 - a. What does it require of us to develop that which is *very precious in the sight of God*?

DAY FIVE: Read 1 Peter 3:5-7

1. We will benefit from the examples given to us in 1 Peter 3:5,6. Identify these from the following:
 - a. verse 5a
 - b. verse 6a
2. Describe the *holy women* from 1 Peter 3:5b.
 - a. Focus on the phrase *who trusted in God*. Why is this essential?
3. 1 Peter 3:6 tells us Sarah called Abraham *lord*, which revealed her honor and respect for her husband. How is she an example for a Christian wife?

Challenge: Research the meaning of the phrase: *not afraid with any terror* and record your findings.

4. Read 1 Peter 3:7. Although the instruction in this verse is directed to husbands, it contains insights about women. The phrase *weaker vessel* refers to a woman's weaker physical strength. Think about the following description of a Christian husband and wife: *being heirs together of the grace of life*. How does this minister to you?
 - a. Notice the serious implications of the last phrase of verse 7. How is prayer affected by conflict between marriage partners?

DAY SIX: Read 1 Peter 3:1-7

1. How have the roles of a husband and wife changed in the last twenty years?
 - a. What do you think is good about the changes?
 - b. What do you think is bad about the changes?
2. Choose a marriage relationship that you know of and share what you admire about that relationship.
3. What qualities can a believing wife use to submit to an unbelieving husband?
4. Using today's lesson, contrast inward and outward beauty.
5. Husbands who do not honor their wives (and wives who do not honor their husbands) suffer the consequence of *hindered prayer*. How does *hindered prayer* affect someone's life?
6. In what ways have you been challenged by this lesson?

*Who can find a virtuous wife?
For her worth is far above rubies.*

- Proverbs 31:10