



context:

line by line: Ephesians 5:21-33

application:

## BE PRESENT . . . to family

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Use these questions in your community group time to dig deeper and discover how you can apply today's message to everyday life.

**TEXT:** Ephesians 5:21 - 6:9

Submission is a difficult subject for some people to discuss. And those who live in a democratic nation can tend to take the subject lightly. But Paul states that in the church all Christians should "submit to one another out of reverence for Christ" (5:21). In fact, when we have difficulty submitting to others, it may be because we refuse to submit to Christ. But Christian submission is different than a mere compliance with authority. Loving submission cannot be commanded by the one with the power in a relationship. It can only be given to another as a loving response. Let your submission to others in the church, at your job, and in your family be of the highest quality that you can offer each day.

1. When is it easy to submit to authorities gladly and cheerfully?
2. In what situations do you find it difficult to submit to others?
3. What kind of submission should Christians display or exercise?
4. How does the Bible's view of submission in relationships run counter to the world's views?
5. Why is submission so important in parent-child relationships? How does a parent teach a child to submit?
6. To what degree should we submit to our supervisors and others at work?
7. What do these verses on husband and wife relationships teach us about the relationship between Christ and the church?
8. How can the group pray for you this week?