

1 Peter Lesson #11, Chapter 3:1-6

Read through Chapter 2:12 to the end of Chapter 3 in preparation for this lesson.

1. In verse 1 who is Peter writing to and what command does he give them?
2. Peter begins verse 1 with the phrase *in the same way* (NKJV, ESV likewise). What is Peter referring to from the previous verses (2:12-2:25)?
3. What reason does Peter give for wives to obey this command according to verses 1-2?
4. What picture of submission is painted here in verses 1-2?
5. What extreme case is stated here to show the length to which a woman is to submit to her husband (verse 1)? Why is it important that women understand what God is expecting of them in this case?
6. How would following Christ's example of submission in suffering aid a woman who found herself in a similar situation?
7. Define the following words:

- a. *Submissive* [Strong's #5293 (ESV subject)]:

- b. *Behavior* [Strong's #391 (NKJV, ESV *conduct*)]:

 - c. *Chaste* [Strong's #53 (ESV *pure*, NIV *purity*)]:

 - d. *Respectful* [Strong's #5401 (ESV *respectful*; NIV *reverence*)]:
-
8. Sum up what you have learned from these verses in our text about a wife's submission.

 9. Now let's look at what the rest of the Scriptures say about wifely submission so you'll gain a complete view of the doctrine of submission. Look up the following verses and then summarize what you have learned: Eph. 5:22-24; Col. 3:18; Titus 2:3-5.

 10. If you are married, what would you say are some ways you struggle to submit to your husband? How would you describe your submission? Is your godly behavior an example to your husband? Ask your husband if he thinks there are areas you could improve in (but don't argue with his assessment of your submission!). If you are not married, consider the other areas in your life where you are commanded to submit (like the workplace, to the governing authorities, to our church leaders, to one another, to the word of God, to God Himself). How are you doing? Would others be won to Christ by your behavior?

11. What caution does Peter give to wives who are trying to win their husbands without a word (verses 3-4)? Why is this caution necessary?

12. List 3 or more things about the focus every woman should have as seen in these verses.

13. Define *gentle* [Strong's #4239].

14. Look up the following Scriptures to gain a better understanding of what it means to be of gentle spirit. Record your findings. See Matt. 5:5; 11:29; Gal. 5:22-23; 6:1; Col. 3:12; 2 Tim. 2:25.

15. What are some practical ways you can exercise a gentle spirit in your life?

16. Define *quiet* [Strong's #2272].

17. Look up the following Scriptures to gain a better understanding of what it means to be of quiet spirit. Record your findings. See Ps. 119:165; Is. 26:3; Acts 11:18; 22:2; 2 Thess. 3:12; 1 Tim. 2:11-12.

18. What are some practical ways you can exercise a quiet spirit in your life?

19. What 2 examples does Peter cite that are to be an encouragement to you when you submit (verses 5-6)?

20. Peter writes that you will become Sarah's daughter if you do what is right without being frightened by any fear. What does he mean? Make sure you consider the context of verses 1-6 as you form your answer.

21. Often women are fearful to entrust themselves and their future into the hands of their husbands, yet verse 5 provides the key to being able to do this. What is it?

22. How do the following verses encourage you and help you to submit to the situations that God has allowed in your life? See Ps. 34:4; 37:5-6; 56:11; 112:1, 7; 118:6; Eph. 6:7-8; Phil. 4:6-7; Col. 3:18, 23-24.

Peter's point here is that the wife's godly behavior is the most valuable testimony to open the husband's heart to the gospel. He will need to hear the words of salvation, perhaps from her.

But it will be as he is able to observe her submission as a faithful wife that she truly commends the gospel to him. How a believer lives in that most intimate relationship helps make the grace of Christ believable (cf. Matt. 5:16).

~John MacArthur

Peter's insistence on "doing right" is a reminder that no acts of disobedience in Sarah's life are to be imitated by Christian wives (cf. Gen. 16:2, 6; 18:15; perhaps 20:5); it is her submission to her husband and her trust in God that Peter commends. ~Wayne Grudem

As Abraham is the "father of the faithful," so Sarah is the mother of the obedient.

~J. Howard B. Masterman

Like it or not, people notice your "external beautification" and they read the message it communicates. Your outward appearance tells much about you which is why Peter says a woman's adornment needs to be harmonious with her profession that she is a follower of Jesus Christ.