

1 PETER 3:1-7

HAPPY HOMES

1 . Wives Submit to your husbands

a. Choose submission (1)

- “Same way” as citizens, slaves and Christ himself
- Voluntary decision to recognise a role in authority over us, under God's ultimate authority
- Not in fear, weakness or inferiority but a humble acceptance for the glory of God
- Submission is a sign of strength of character to allow and encourage the husband to lead
- Still has a strong voice but always as part of a partnership where the man takes the loving lead

b) It is part of your witness (1,2)

- Purity and reverence are a powerful witness to husbands who are not believers
- This can lead our husbands to Christ (part of living “such good lives” (1 Peter 2:12))

c) It shows the depth of your beauty (3,4)

- Ultimate attractiveness of form does not come from clothes or adornments but “inner self”
- This kind of beauty never wears out or grows old
- Modesty - we don't need to attract people with what we wear
- Highly value developing godly character rather than superficial attractiveness

d) Following biblical examples (5-6)

- Godly women like Abraham's wife Sarah showed their beauty in submission

2. Husbands Honour your wives

a) Know

- Work at understanding our wives at make all decisions with their good in mind

b) Honour

- Respect and highly estimate her worth
- Weaker partner means in this relationship we recognise their submission could make them vulnerable so we work hard to respect

c) Spiritual Partnership

- “Heirs together” underlines the same status men women.
- “Hinder prayers” means that male marital tyranny leads to spiritual poverty