



Lesson 58 (1 Samuel 25:14-19): A Wife of Noble Character

Read Proverbs 31:10-31. Consider Abigail as you read this. Underline or write down the descriptors that we can see in Abigail that are mentioned of this wife in Proverbs 31.

What does an excellent wife do for her husband? (Verse 12).

Whom does she open her hand to (verse 20)?

What is she clothed in (verse 25)?

What comes out of her mouth (verse 26)?

What does she look well to (verse 27)?

Why is she to be greatly praised (verse 30)?

Read Ephesians 5:22-33. Who are wives to submit to?

In what way are they to do this?

How are husbands to act toward their wives?

To what degree are husbands to love their wives? (verse 28)

Did Nabal treat Abigail in this way?

To whom was Abigail showing submission in her actions? (Hint: it wasn't to Nabal)

Read Colossians 3:18. In what way are we to submit to our husbands?

If we are obeying "as is fitting in the Lord," the only exclusions to submitting to our husbands would be when submitting to them is not fitting in the Lord, when they are asking us to sin or when there is an issue of abuse. We are to submit to the Lord, first, then to our husbands.

Read Titus 2:3-5. What is the ultimate purpose of submitting to our husbands? (verse 5)

What does that tell you should be our standard for submission?

We have lots of opinions. There are many times when we will be faced with the need to submit our desires to our husbands' leading and the issue is merely one of differing opinions, not one of right or wrong.

Ultimately, our submission to our husbands is an act of service and sacrifice to God. If our husbands ask us to act in an ungodly or sinful manner, it isn't honoring to God to go along with that. Yet, we use that as an excuse not to submit in the opinion type things.

So, if you are married, my questions for you to ponder today deal directly with your spouse. For both married and not married, consider these questions in the context of submitting your will to God's. As you spend time with God today, ask Him to show you where you are withholding submission (to Him or to your spouse) on an "opinion" issue.

Ask Him to show you how to submit with His grace in those areas, not being taken advantage of, but trusting the umbrella of protection that is over you. Ask Him to help you to always be aware of what is an opinion issue and what is an issue of sin and ask Him to help you to discern between the two as you remember what submission is truly about, and how we are all, male and female, to continually be submitting our will to His and, as wives, submitting our desires to our husbands is a way to glorify God in our daily lives.