

The Things that Matter Most

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I. Introduction.

A. Text: 1 Peter 3:1-7.

B. A home can be happy if a wife and husband consider submission and consideration, respectively.

II. Submission.

A. Peter spends more time dealing with women in this passage because of the status elevation that occurred under Christianity.

B. Submission is an obligation, an opportunity and an ornament.

1. Obligation: God commands it.

a. Submission is not slavery.

b. Subjection is the willing acceptance of one's place in society.

c. Submission is a freeing act of love in contrast to subjugation.

d. Order does not have to do with superiority or inferiority.

2. Opportunity: there is cooperation.

a. It is wrong for Christians to pursue others.

b. Marriage does not create problems, it reveals problems.

3. Ornament: we seek character.

III. Consideration.

A. Knowledge.

1. Husbands need to know how their wives are put together.

2. Husbands need to listen.

B. Honor. Do not take each other for granted.

C. Prayer.

1. Answered prayer is a thermometer for spiritual life.

2. If a wife and husband are not getting along, they cannot pray.

Application questions:

1. What is the difference between submission and subjugation?

2. What does it look like practically to grow in knowledge of one another?

3. What does mutual prayer assume about the spiritual health of a husband and wife? Explain.
