

God designed women as completers, not competitors!
(Genesis 2:18-24)

Key Attribute of a Godly Wife

Homework

Ladies, in the next 24 hours, pray that God would reveal to you areas within your life that are *non-submissive* toward your husband. Write these areas down, and then be willing to discuss them with your husband.

Submission

Submission (Greek *hypotasso*): to arrange under; to subordinate; to obey; “a voluntary attitude of giving in; cooperation”

God’s Word on Submission

Ephesians 5:22-24 “Wives, be subject to your own husbands, as to the Lord. For the husband is the head of the wife, as Christ also is the head of the church, He himself being the Savior of the body. But as the church is subject to Christ, so also the wives ought to be to their husbands in everything.”

Colossians 3:18 “Wives, be subject to your husbands, as is fitting in the Lord.”

Titus 2:3-5 “[Wives] . . . be subject to their own husbands, so that the word of God will not be dishonored.”

1 Peter 3:1 “In the same way, you wives, be submissive to your own husbands so that even if any of them are disobedient to the word, they may be won without a word by the behavior of their wives.”

Quotes on Submission

“I confess that I am not ‘Exhibit A’ of the submissive woman, but in my old age the Lord in His wonderful patience and mercy is showing me how simple it is just to keep my mouth shut. That’s what it comes down to most of the time. Sometimes, of course, my responsibility as a helper for my husband requires my gently calling his attention to something he has perhaps overlooked in making a decision. He listens, and occasionally sticks with his original plan anyway. Do I fall in with it graciously, quietly, in the spirit of Christ?”

“Most of my testing comes in the little things, when I automatically want to put forward my own preferences, arguments, logic, clarifications. Relinquishing those has meant a new freedom from stress and a new thankfulness for my husband.”

(Elisabeth Elliott)

Submission Is Not About Losing

Equality: Your equality is based on your value and worth to God. Submission is a matter of choice; it will not diminish your equality!

Rights: Christianity is not a life of rights, but of your duty, obedience, and right relationship to God. You are a bondservant!

Freedom: Freedom is the ability to act and think rightly within boundaries.

When Not Submissive, You Can Become . . .

1. Loyal outside of your marriage

You can become more loyal to your co-workers, boss, pastor, friends, and family.

2. Resistant to decisions/choices

Your spirit hardens; you verbally degrade; you're quiet and cold.

3. Resistant to his physical affection

You withhold intimacy as a form of punishment.

4. Financially independent and self-sustaining

You have secret money accounts, make purchases without confiding in each other, and take matters into your own hands.

5. Discontent and murmuring

You complain and sow discord.

When Submissive, You Are . . .

Titus 2:3-5

1. Worthy of respect

You display qualities that invite and attract.

2. Reverent (Ephesians 5:33)

You demonstrate honor and loyalty, and are non-argumentative.

3. Patient

You understand and adapt to your husband's needs.

4. A teacher of "good"

You please God because you are not being corruptive.

5. Loving

You love your husband and family whether they're good, bad, or indifferent.

6. Discreet/pure (1 Timothy 2:9-11, 15; 1 Peter 3:3-6)

7. Home manager (1 Timothy 5:14)

You look after domestic affairs with prudence and care.

Philippians 2:3-4

"Do nothing from selfishness or empty conceit, but with humility of mind regard one another as more important than yourselves; do not merely look out for your own personal interests, but also for the interests of others."