

HOPE *Refined*

 Christ Chapel Bible Church
Ben Fuqua
August 2, 2020

1 PETER 3:1-7

INSTRUCTIONS FOR HOPE IN MARRIAGE

Submission is the foundation of a redemptive life.

But biblical submission requires godly trust.

Instructions for Wives

Likewise, wives, be subject to your own husbands, so that even if some do not obey the word, they may be won without a word by the conduct of their wives, when they see your respectful and pure conduct. vv. 1-2

_____ to your husband and bring God glory.

DO YOU TRUST GOD'S DESIGN FOR YOUR MARRIAGE MORE THAN YOUR OWN?

Do not let your adorning be external—the braiding of hair and the putting on of gold jewelry, or the clothing you wear— but let your adorning be the hidden person of the heart with the imperishable beauty of a gentle and quiet spirit, which in God's sight is very precious. For this is how the holy women who hoped in God used to adorn themselves, by submitting to their own husbands ... vv. 3-5

Build your _____ on your God-given internal beauty.

DO YOU TRUST IN GOD'S DEFINITION OF BEAUTY MORE THAN THE WORLD'S STANDARD?

... as Sarah obeyed Abraham, calling him lord. And you are her children, if you do good and do not fear anything that is frightening. v. 6

Reject _____ that would attempt to derail your relationships.

DO YOU TRUST GOD MORE THAN YOU FEAR THE WORST-CASE SCENARIO?

Instructions for Husbands

For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you might follow in his steps. 1 Peter 2:21

Submit to _____ as your example for leadership.

DO YOU TRUST GOD'S DESIGN FOR YOUR MARRIAGE MORE THAN YOUR OWN?

Likewise, husbands, live with your wives in an understanding way, showing honor to the woman as the weaker vessel, since they are heirs with you of the grace of life ... v. 7a

Honor your wife as more _____ than yourself.

DO YOU TRUST GOD'S PROVISION FOR YOU IF YOU PRIORITIZE YOUR WIFE?

... so that your prayers may not be hindered. v. 7b

See your wife as a _____ in the Christians life.

DO YOU TRUST THAT GOD WANTS TO USE YOUR MARRIAGE FOR HIS MISSION?

1. When you were young, what was your most idealistic dream of marriage, and where did it come from? Now as an adult Christ follower, who is your model for Christ-honoring marriage?

2. Read 1 Peter 3:1-7. How is an understanding of Christ-likeness critical to building a good marriage? What happens when one or both spouses don't make Christ-likeness a priority?

3. In first-century Greco-Roman culture, women received little or no respect. In their father's house they were subject to Roman law granting fathers ultimate authority over their children. Husbands had a similar kind of legal authority over their wives. Society regarded women as servants who were to stay at home and obey their husbands. What challenges would a woman in this situation face if she decided to follow Christ?

4. If you're married, how do you relate to Peter's advice to husbands and wives? If you're not, what can you glean from this advice to improve your relationships with those you love?

5. What is the hardest part of Peter's marriage instructions?

6. What action do you need to take next after hearing this sermon?

FOOD FOR THOUGHT

"So concerned is God that Christian husbands live in an understanding and loving way with their wives, that he 'interrupts' his relationship with them when they are not doing so. No Christian husband should presume to think that any spiritual good will be accomplished by his life without an effective ministry of prayer. And no husband may expect an effective prayer life unless he lives with his wife 'in an understanding way, bestowing honour' on her. To take the time to develop and maintain a good marriage is God's will; it is serving God; it is a spiritual activity pleasing in his sight."

"Peter does not specify the way in which he understands the woman to be the weaker sex, but the context would make it appropriate for him to have in mind any kind of weakness of which husbands would need to be cautioned not to take advantage. This would certainly include the idea that, by and large, women are physically weaker than men (i.e. if men tried they usually could overpower their wives physically). But the context also shows that women are 'weaker' in terms of authority in the marriage (vv. 1, 5-6), and Peter therefore directs husbands that instead of misusing their authority for selfish ends they should use it to 'bestow honour' on their wives. Yet there may also be a third sense of 'weakness' which would fit the context (because it is something husbands should not take advantage of), namely, a greater emotional sensitivity. While this is something which is also a great strength, it none the less means that wives are often more likely to be hurt deeply by conflict within a marriage, or by inconsiderate behaviour on the part of the husband. Knowing this, Christian husbands should not be 'harsh' (Col 3:19) or fill their marriage relationship with criticism and conflict, but should rather be positive and affirming, 'living together in an understanding way', and 'bestowing honour on the feminine one, as the weaker sex'."

-Wayne Grudem

COMING UP AT CHRIST CHAPEL

Here's a glimpse at what you need to know for this week. Like to plan ahead a little more? Pick up a copy of *The Source* at a stand around campus or near the exits, or visit www.ccbcfamily.org/events. They're your source for everything going on at Christ Chapel.

TEXT "CCBCSHARE" TO 555-888 FOR YOUR NEXT STEP. If you've been focused on spiritual growth for a while, your next step is to think about who God might be putting in your life to share the gospel with or disciple. Text "CCBCShare" to 555-888 and we'll send you a few ideas and suggestions on how to get started this week, including the upcoming "Overwhelmed" class.

THE "OVERWHELMED" CLASS STARTS THIS WEDNESDAY, AUG. 5. If you've felt fear, stress and anxiety this year, you're not the only one. Join us each Wednesday this month for a class led over Zoom by Ryan McCarthy. He'll be talking about how we can process and handle our overwhelmed feelings with God's help, and how the "peace that transcends all understanding" is something that we really can experience. Share the link with a friend or sign yourself up at www.ccbcfamily.org/events.

THIS FALL STRENGTHEN YOUR MARRIAGE AT RE|ENGAGE. Felt some serious strains this year? Looking for a way to prioritize your relationship? re|engage has room for you. Whether you'd rate your marriage as a two or a 10, we'd love to help you grow closer together this fall. Join us for an informational meeting on Sunday, Aug. 23 at 5 p.m. on Zoom and we'll tell you all about the experience—just sign up ahead of time at www.ccbcfamily.org/reengage.

THERE'S STILL TIME FOR REAL HEROES 2020! If you haven't experienced the best week of the summer yet, Kids Kamp will be on our website through Aug. 31. The adventure includes games, activities, Bible stories, cartoons, music videos and more, so share the link with friends and neighbors and plan on making some memories with your kids or grandkids this month. Fly to www.ccbcfamily.org to sign up and see it for yourself.

DEACON AND ELDER CANDIDATES FOR 2020 ARE NOW AVAILABLE FOR YOU TO SEE. If you'd like to review the list of this year's Deacon and Elder candidates, go to www.ccbcfamily.org/ccbcleadership. Per the Constitution, a members-only congregational vote will be taken by online ballot the weekend of Friday, Aug. 28 through Sunday, Aug. 30 to affirm these nominations. The results will be announced Sunday, Aug. 30 at the annual business meeting in the Sanctuary on the Fort Worth Campus at 1 p.m.

MISSING COMMUNITY? JOIN AN ONLINE SMALL GROUP! These groups meet to hang out online, go deeper into Sunday's message and pray together each week. They're a lot of fun, so sign up for one today at www.ccbcfamily.org/groups.

WE'RE POSTING THE LATEST UPDATES AT WWW.CCBCFAMILY.ORG. With so much changing in day-to-day life right now, we know there's a lot to keep track of. That's why we're posting any updates or changes to how and when we're gathering on our website. Go to www.ccbcfamily.org to read a full FAQ, get tickets for our next in-person worship service and find links for prayer requests, ways to serve and more.