

LWML *Texas* District

March 6

Meditation

Submission

Submission, this word hits a little funny these days in modern culture. The world likes to turn the passage that says, *wives, submit to your own husbands* (Ephesians 5:22a), and make it something to hold women down, granting men selfish power over women.

Here are some selected verses from Ephesians 5:22–28. *Wives, submit to your own husbands, as to the Lord. For the husband is the head of the wife even as Christ is the head of the church, his body, and is himself its Savior* (Ephesians 5:22–23). *Husbands, love your wives, as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her* (Ephesians 5:25). *In the same way husbands should love their wives as their own bodies. He who loves his wife loves himself* (Ephesians 5:28). Please feel free to read the entire passage on your own as well.

This submission goes both ways, women are to submit to their husbands, and husbands are supposed to love their wives like Christ loves the Church. How does Christ love the Church? He gave up His own life for her. He loved her literally to death. Thankfully, He didn't stay dead, and showed His amazing power by rising again for each of us, out of His love for us, to save us.

We are reminded to *obey your leaders and submit to them* (Hebrews 13:17a). Submission to authority is ultimately following the fourth commandment, *honor your father and your mother, that your days may be long in the land that the Lord your God is giving you* (Exodus 20:12). If we heed the explanation given in *Luther's Small Catechism*, we are reminded this is dealing with all God established authority. God has put these people in authority for a reason, and in honoring them we in turn honor God and are blessed by Him.

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