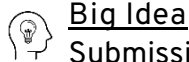


Discussion Guide  
*“It’s Time To Grow Up” Wk6: Submission*  
February 12, 2023



Big Idea

Submission frees us from the terrible burden of always getting our own way.



Icebreaker

With the “hints” of spring, followed by summer, upon us, what is one thing you are looking forward to?



Discussion Questions

1. When one hears the word “submit” it generally conjures up negative thoughts. Why do you think that is? Read James 4:1-3. How does this verse relate to the topic of “submission”? Is there a current situation you are either in, or aware of, that you could share where competing desires are resulting in fights and quarrels? How could submission by each involved party in this situation help?
2. Read Ephesians 5:21. Why is this an important verse to always remember when it comes to the topic of submission?
3. Read Ephesians 5:22-33. God has Paul, here, address wives and husbands individually and specifically. How can realizing this and pursuing growth in light of it be healthy for couples? Now, splitting these passages into God’s direction to wives and husbands separately, in a short statement, what does a wife’s submission to her husband seem to look like and what does a husband’s submission to his wife seem to look like? Are these directions from the Lord harder on one sex over the other and if so, why do you think that?
4. Read Ephesians 6:1-4. Recap what the sermon communicated, or your own thoughts, regarding God’s wisdom here in having children practice and learn obedience in the context of family and the home? If they don’t learn such a thing in the family/home setting, what could be some of the consequences. Focusing on verse 4, share any experience or wisdom you may have regarding the balance of not “exasperating” a child while still “training” them appropriately. Shall either child or parent fall short in the directions laid forth here, what needs to occur to pursue healing?
5. Read Ephesians 6:5-9. Discuss the different specific responsibilities seen in these passages for an “employee” or slave/servant and “boss” or master when it comes to being mutually submissive. Have you been in an environment where you have seen this play out well? Please describe it. If you have been in an environment where the directives described here were severely discarded, what was/is the result? Which way of engaging in the employee/boss relationship (God’s way or the world’s way) is better for the long-term productivity and vitality of an organization who is trying to accomplish their end goal?
6. Read Matthew 26:39 & Philippians 2:3-8. Thoughts from these readings to share with the group?



Concluding Question

Is there a specific relationship that this sermon brought to mind where you need to pray for regarding your own willingness and pursuit of growing up in the ways of the Lord?



Application

1. What do you think the Holy Spirit may be saying to you through this sermon and our discussion?
2. What is something God wants you to do now?
3. Is there a way we can help each other apply what God is showing us?



Prayer

Pray that families and places of work can better understand mutual submission and pursue it.