

BIBLICAL WOMANHOOD

Embracing God's Design

{Large Group Study #6}

QUESTIONS FOR UNDERSTANDING & APPLICATION:

1. What is the biblical basis for the Apostle Paul calling a wife to submit to her husband as to the Lord, and a husband to love his wife like Christ loved the church and gave Himself up for her? Why is an understanding of these things so important for both the woman and the man to understand as they seek to fulfill their different roles?

Earlier Janie quoted the following: "The relationship between men and women does not involve inferiority, for, in the parallel clause, Christ is not inferior to God the Father. Submission does not indicate inferiority, but subordination. Just as Christ and God are equally divine, men and women are equal beings. But just as Jesus and God the Father have different roles in God's plan of salvation, so men and women are given different roles..."

2. How does thinking about the relationship between God the Father and Jesus Christ serve as help for and motivation towards fulfilling our different roles in marriage?
3. Briefly summarize the role the husband is to play in a marriage relationship. How does Christ alone perfectly fulfill the role of the Groom and how is it even remotely possible for a husband to grow in faithfulness in this role?
4. Review again why it is so challenging for a woman to live out biblical submission and for a man to love his wife sacrificially as Christ loved the church. What is the main cause of these problems? How does considering the message of the Gospel help both the woman and the man in the pursuit of fulfilling their roles in marriage?
5. What is the eternal reality that is pictured in a limited way through our earthly marriages and how is that eternal reality meant to encourage believers this side of Heaven?
6. What are one to two areas you want to work on in your marriage or your relationship with Christ that we could pray for before we leave?