

June 21, 2019

### The Principle of Mutual Submission

This week I plan to continue the series on essentials for healthy relationships. Sunday we will consider what I believe is God's foundational principle for relationships. I hope you will be able to join us!



I believe most of the problems in relationships exist because we do not understand nor accept this principle. It is the fountainhead where all loving relationships begin and find their strength to endure. I am talking about the principle of mutual submission. Paul writes in Ephesians 5:21, "*submit to one another out of reverence for Christ.*" I plan to describe WHAT it is, WHY is it so hard, WHO can show us how, and HOW does it work or operate in our lives.

Here is a story that depicts how wonderful God's plan for mutual submission works in our lives. Heartbroken Nathaniel went home to tell his wife he had been fired from his job. Sophia surprised him with an exclamation of joy. "Now, you can write your book!" "Yes," replied the man, wanting to believe the best but with sagging confidence asserted, "and what shall we live on while I am writing it? We have nothing." But to his amazement, she opened a drawer and pulled out a substantial amount of money. "Where on earth did you get that"? He exclaimed. "I have always known you were a man of genius," she told him. "I knew that someday you would write a masterpiece. I just knew it! So every week, out of the money you gave me for housekeeping, I saved a little bit. Here is enough to last us for one whole year." **Nathaniel wrote the book!**

Do you see that it was because of her loving submission that her husband was provided the opportunity to write one of the greatest novels of all American literature? The book is *The Scarlet Letter* by Nathaniel Hawthorne. Now you know the rest of the story! Sophia Hawthorne's act of submission and sacrifice resulted in a blessing for us all!

Don't miss this. Submission is using our position of power to provide the opportunity for others to write their books! To fulfill their dreams! To become all God has called them to be! And that is true no matter who you are! You might be a Pastor or a deacon or a mom or a dad! Or even our lord! So you leave your place of power and you take off your royal robes and give your life up so others might have eternal life! I believe part of the blessing of Heaven is going to be God revealing to us "*the rest of the story!*" We will be able to see how others climbed their mountains and accomplished their feats as we lived in sacrificial love and humble submission!

Please commit to joining us for worship this Sunday. Thanks for inviting others to join us too!

*Learning to live submissively...*  
Pastor Garry

"We are a **faith fellowship** of believers on our journey **together** with our Lord... meeting needs, mending hearts."