



# PETER

*THE DISCIPLE MAKER*

**Daily Devotions and Small Group Discussion Questions | Week Three**

## This Week's Memory Verse

..to keep in your pocket, memorize, and hide in your heart:

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 (ESV)

## Week Three, Day Four

### Scripture Reading

1 Peter 3:1-9

### Devotional Reading

The word submission is one that has become like nails on a chalkboard in our society.

It's been removed from many wedding vows, it is a sensitive, often avoided, topic, yet it is mentioned time and again in the Bible. So how do we wrestle with this command? The biblical definition of submission involves concepts like cooperation and support. In its proper use, submission is a beautiful expression of how God wants us to live as his body!

Ephesians 5:21 (NIV) tells us, "submit to one another out of reverence for Christ."

Too often we view the idea of submission as a passive act. Yes, it can feel like a dying to our own desires and preferences. But in the end it is for a greater cause than our own individual paths could ever achieve. Jesus submitted to the will of his Father by giving up his very life. We are invited to follow his lead in surrendering our own will to God.

1 Peter 3:1-2 (ESV) tells us, "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." Wow. God wants to use a yielding over, a support, a submission, to win over souls.

On the husband's end of things, God has good intentions as well (doesn't he always?). In Christ, a husband's role is characterized by honoring and serving the needs of his wife, ultimately to foster Christ-likeness in her.

### Faith In Action

Make a list of your perceptions regarding submission. If you're married, what does submitting to your spouse look like to you? If you're single, what does submitting to others, "out of reverence for Christ," look like for you? Ask God to show you how you can appropriately live his command to submit to those in your life as, "heirs together of the grace of life."

### Today's Prayer

Lord, forgive us for how we have misunderstood the act of submission. Help us as the body of Christ to live the healthy submission that Peter writes about in his letter. Show us practical ways to lean into the greater vision that is before us rather than demanding our own way. May you be glorified.