

Does the idea of submitting raise the hairs on the back of you neck?  
Does it cause you to get that tense feeling of resistance?

Did you ever stop to think about Jesus Christ—that he was equal to God in every way but he voluntarily submitted himself to God's will and plan to bring redemption so that you and I might be saved? Think about that—"submission between equals!" God the Son submitted to God the Father. If Jesus submitted for our sakes, why should it be hard for us to submit to him as our Lord and Savior?

Those who submit to Christ find it easy and the rewards are incalculable. Jesus says "Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy and my burden is light." (Matthew 11:29-30) The freedom and sense of peace that comes from knowing that God is in control of my life—that I no longer have to worry about controlling my life every waking moment—brings joy to my heart.

Take time right now to surrender all of those burdens that you have been wrestling with. Turn them over to God and put your faith in him to lead and guide you. You will never regret it. Ask Jesus to become your Lord and Savior. Seek the fellowship of a Bible-believing church and begin life's journey anew with Christ in charge of your life.

*These studies are produced by South Shore Baptist Church in conjunction with our weekly sermon series. Studies are distributed one week prior to the sermon and can be picked up from the table at the back of the sanctuary and are also posted at <http://sermonhouse.com/SSBC>.*

*Sermons are also recorded and can be listened to later by visiting that same website. Have feedback or questions? Contact [studyeditor@southshorebaptist.com](mailto:studyeditor@southshorebaptist.com)*

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# The Book of Proverbs

Godly Wisdom for Everyday Life

SSBC Proverbs Bible Study # 38

*Take this Bible Study home and use it to guide your exploration of the scripture passages that will be the basis of the sermon next week.*

**Topical Series: Wisdom Lived out in Community**

This Week's Key Passage: Proverbs 27:15-16

Sermon Date: June 29, 2008

## **Wives, respect your husbands.**

This week's theme encourages Christian wives to respect their husbands. Have you ever thought about what showing respect means in the sense of our actions and thoughts? Some people give outward respect but only grudgingly and with an attitude that is definitely not respectful.

The action of giving another person true respect is essentially a gift from you to them. Think about that for a moment. How can that be? Well, to give respect to someone, you are telling them that you value them highly and it requires that you have humility on your part because you are making others look good without trying to make yourself look good at the same time.

Let's look at this often times "electrically charged" subject of wives submitting to their husbands and see if we can understand God's thinking and ultimate plan behind the words given to husbands and wives in the New Testament writings on this subject

1. Read this week's Bible passage and use the following charts to note your observations and any questions you have.  
 The first verse below is the key verse for this study. Keeping this verse in mind, read each of the subsequent verses and note how each provides further insight into the meaning of this key verse.

Scripture	Your Observation & Questions
<p><b>Key Text: Proverbs 27:15-16 NIV</b></p> <p><sup>27:15</sup> A quarrelsome wife is like a constant dripping on a rainy day;</p> <p><sup>27:16</sup> restraining her is like restraining the wind or grasping oil with the hand.</p> <hr/> <p><sup>12:4</sup> A wife of noble character is her husband's crown,</p> <p>but a disgraceful wife is like decay in his bones.</p>	

Scripture	Your Observation & Questions
<p><sup>19:13</sup> A foolish son is his father's ruin,</p> <p>and a quarrelsome wife is like a constant dripping.</p> <p><sup>21:9</sup> Better to live on a corner of the roof</p> <p>than share a house with a quarrelsome wife.</p> <p><sup>21:19</sup> Better to live in a desert</p> <p>than with a quarrelsome and ill-tempered wife.</p>	

2. Next, use this chart to interpret some key observations.

a. From the chart on the previous pages, select a few of your observations & questions that you find most interesting or important. Rewrite these below, and then interpret and apply each of them using the columns to the right.

b. For each observation, begin to interpret by asking yourself these kinds of questions:

- What does it mean?
- Why is this important?
- What does this tell me about the Father? Jesus? The Holy Spirit?
- Are there other scriptures that could help me understand this?

Observation What does it Say?	Interpretation What does it mean?

3. Now consider how you can **apply** the Word to your life. Look for:

- ◆ **Sins** to avoid
- ◆ **Promises** to believe
- ◆ **Examples** to follow (remember "SPECK")
- ◆ **Commands** to obey
- ◆ **Knowledge** to share

Don't just write things to write them — listen carefully to God's Word and what he seems to be teaching you, and look for relevant things that you're truly stirred to do. Then as you do them, God will help will help you learn, grow, and help others grow.

Application How do I apply what it means?

4. Considering our Key Text for this week, what might be some causes of quarrels between believers? Consider Proverbs 13:10, Titus 3:1-11 and James 4:1-11.
5. Proverbs 12:4 refers to a “wife of noble character” being a husband’s crown. In what ways might this be a culture-bound model and in what ways might it convey God’s enduring will for his created order? Consider Proverbs 31:10-31 and I Peter 3:1-6
6. Most of these proverbs describe the unpleasant habit of being quarrelsome. What are some of the reasons we might become quarrelsome?
7. Several word pictures are used in these proverbs to describe life with a quarrelsome wife. List some words to describe feelings you would have living with a quarrelsome person.
8. Consider Sarah the wife of Abraham (Genesis 18:1-12 and I Peter 3:1-6). What character traits do you observe in Sarah that we could emulate today?
9. Can a wife show respect and disagree with her husband at the same time? Why or why not?
10. How can you apply what you have learned in this study to your life this week?

**Memory Verse**

**Proverbs 21:9**

<sup>21:9</sup> Better to live on a corner of the roof than share a house with a quarrelsome wife.