

GENESIS

begin. belong. believe.

Just for her...

(part IV of the 'I Do' series – 2/26/12)

Big Idea

In the very beginning of Scripture wives are referred to as “helpers”, but what does this mean? This does not mean that women are inferior in marriage because being a helper is a reflection of God Himself who is called our helper throughout Scripture. Further, this is a high calling to use our God-given gifts and abilities to bless and serve others – namely our spouses. Being a helper can be seen in three different aspects –

- being beautiful according to scripture – Proverbs 31:10-31; 1 Peter 3:2-6
- being submissive – Ephesians 5:22-24; Colossians 3:18; 1 Peter 3:1-2
- being respectful – Ephesians 5:33.

Discussion question for your entire Community Group

1. For those who are single and desirous to get married one day – what are some ways in which you can be preparing yourself now to enter into the biblical roles you'll have when you say 'I Do'?
2. For those who are married – what are some things that you wish you would have done differently in your singleness to better prepare you for your role within the marriage relationship?

For the Women –

3. If “beauty should not come from outward adornment, . . . instead, it should be that of your inner self” (1 Peter 3:3-5), then what can you be doing now to make yourself ‘biblically beautiful’? What are some things that cause you to stray from pursuing biblical beauty?

Paul tells wives to respect their husbands and husbands to love their wives (Ephesians 5:33).

4. **Women** – What does it look like to respect your husband? Do you know how he receives respect? How are you doing with this?
5. **Men** – What does it look like for you to love your wives? Do you know how she receives love? How are you doing with this?

Submission is a posture of humility, and a willingness to trust God.

6. **Wives** – for many, the thought of submitting to their husband causes great angst – why is this? If submission has nothing to do with worth, but everything to do with role – then what are some ways in which you can “be submissive” in a way that is both honoring to God, and to your husband?
7. **Husband** – we serve as examples to our wives in how to submit as we submit to God. What are some practical ways that you are modeling to your spouse how to be ‘submissive’ to the Lord, as well as to other believers (Ephesians 5:21)?
8. Paul tells us in **Philippians 2:3-4** – *“Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit, but in humility consider others better than yourselves. Each of you should look not only to your own interests, but also to the interest of others.”* Submission to each other is to be normal in the church. How are you doing at this and what holds you back from submitting?