

BIBLE STUDY GUIDE

Submission from Genesis to the Church

Purpose: To understand biblical submission as God designed it—rooted in love, honor, peace, and safety—not control or harm.

1. Created Equal in God's Image

Read: Genesis 1:27

- What does being made in God's image mean?
- How should this shape how we treat one another?

Truth: Equality is God's starting point.

2. Sin Brought Division, Not God

Read: Genesis 3:16

- What changed after sin?
- Why is this important for understanding submission?

Truth: Struggle came from sin, not design.

3. Submission for All Believers

Read: Ephesians 5:21

- Who is called to submit?
- Why does submission honor Christ?

Truth: Submission begins with humility.

4. Order in the Church

Read: 1 Corinthians 14:26–33

- What problem was Paul correcting?
- Why does order help people grow?

Truth: God is a God of peace, not chaos.

5. Understanding 1 Corinthians 14:34–40

Read: 1 Corinthians 14:34–40

- Who else is told to be silent in this chapter?
- What is Paul protecting?

Truth: Paul corrects disruption, not dignity.

6. Jesus Is Our Model

Read: Philippians 2:5–8; John 13:1–17

- How did Jesus show submission?
- What does this teach us about strength?

Truth: Submission looks like Jesus.

Application

- Where might God be calling you to practice humility?

- How can you bring peace instead of tension this week?

FAQ: HARD QUESTIONS PEOPLE ASK

Is Paul telling women to shut up in church?

- No. Earlier in the same letter, women are praying and prophesying. Paul is correcting interruptions and disorder, not banning women from speaking.

Why does Paul focus on women in 1 Corinthians 14?

- Because that was the specific problem in Corinth. Paul also tells men and prophets to be silent when they disrupt. The rule is about order, not gender.

Does submission mean obeying sinful or abusive commands?

- No. Biblical submission never supports abuse, fear, or sin.

Is submission about control?

- No. Control is the result of sin. Submission is the fruit of love.

Why does God care so much about order?

- Because confusion blocks truth. Peace helps people hear the gospel.
- Because pride destroys communities, but humility builds them.

Final Word

Submission is not a dirty word. It is a redeemed word.

When shaped by Christ, submission restores what sin shattered—and the world sees a better way.