

Basic Disciplines of a Believer: A Mature Believer Yields to Authority

Discipline #1: BIBLE SATURATION (Be a Sponge!) – I am filling myself with God's Word

Joshua 1:8 – This Book of the Law shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall meditate in it day and night, that you may observe to do according to all that is written in it. For then you will make your way prosperous, and then you will have good success.

1. **Bible Reading** – Familiarization – Knowing What the Bible Says
 - **Public Reading** – reading the Bible out loud in a group setting
 - **Personal Reading** – reading the Bible each day for ourselves
2. **Bible Feeding** – Instruction – Learning What the Bible Means
3. **Bible Treasuring** – Memorization – Saving What the Bible Says into My Heart
4. **Bible Deepening** – Meditation – Thinking About What the Bible Says
5. **Bible Keeping** – Application – Doing What the Bible Says

Discipline #2: CONTINUAL PRAYER – I am always talking to God.

Colossians 4:2 – Continue earnestly in prayer, being vigilant in it with thanksgiving;

Praying Is Talking to God (P.A.T.)

*We pray because we **can**. | We pray because we **should**. | We pray because others **prayed**. | We pray because of **good***

Yielded Followership Key Passage:

Romans 13:1-2 – Let every soul be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and the authorities that exist are appointed by God.² Therefore whoever resists the authority resists the ordinance of God, and those who resist will bring judgment on themselves.

New Testament “hupo” Words:

Several words are used in the NT for submission, and each has similar meanings with slightly different emphases:

- (1) **hupotasso** (ὑποτάσσω) – means “to place under; to submit to”
- (2) **hupotage** (ὑποταγή) – the noun form of hupotasso = “submission”
- (3) **hupakouo** (ὑπακούω) – means “to listen under and be responsive to”
- (4) **hupakoe** (ὑπακοή) – the noun form of hupakouo = “obedience”
- (5) **hupеiko** (ὑπέικω) – means “to yield to; to give way to” (only in Heb 13:17, from *eiko* [ἐἴκω], to give place or to yield, used only in Gal 2:5 in a negative sense – not to give in to those that demand keeping the Law)

Observations:

- Each word involves “under” (hupo) – Yielding or submitting is being “under” others. This is God’s idea and requirement.
- Each word is something the follower does – the commands are given to the follower!
- Each word requires us to willingly yield to and follow another.
- Each word assumes disagreement of decision or direction. It assumes that we would do something else if we were in charge. At a minimum “submission” assumes disagreement by virtue of differences of opinions as to what is the best decision or best direction. It can also involve choosing righteousness over sin.
- Each word is present as a command. Submission itself *is* righteousness. Not yielding is sin, even if the circumstance or choice does not involve a sinful decision or direction (and disobeying one authority is allowed only when one is obeying a higher authority, usually God).

Realms of Yielded Followership:

A. Believer’s GOD-WARD Submission Responsibilities

1. **Believers Are To Submit To God**
2. **Believers Are To Be Obedient To the Truth**

B. Believer’s FAMILY Submission Responsibilities

1. **Wives Are To Be Subject To Their Own Husbands**
2. **Children Are To Submit To Parents (and Parents Are To Have Their Children in Submission)**

C. Believer’s CHURCH Submission Responsibilities

1. **Believers Are To Submit To Spiritual Leaders**
2. **Younger (Leaders?) Are To Submit To the Elder**
3. **Believers Are To Submit To Those Devoted To Service**
4. **Women Are To Learn In Silence with All Submission**
5. **Believers Are To Submit To One Another**

D. Believer’s OUTWARD Submission Responsibilities

1. **Believers Are To Be Subject To Government Authorities**
2. **Servants Are To Submit To Their Own Masters**

1 Peter 2:11 – 3:7

Submitting to Others by Submitting to God

¹¹ Beloved, I beg *you* as sojourners and pilgrims, abstain from fleshly lusts which war against the soul,
¹² having your conduct honorable among the Gentiles, that when they speak against you as evildoers, they may, by *your* good works which they observe, glorify God in the day of visitation.

¹³ Therefore submit yourselves to every ordinance of man for the Lord's sake, whether to the king as supreme,

¹⁴ or to governors, as to those who are sent by him for the punishment of evildoers and *for the* praise of those who do good.

¹⁵ For this is the will of God, that by doing good you may put to silence the ignorance of foolish men--

¹⁶ as free, yet not using liberty as a cloak for vice, but as bondservants of God.

¹⁷ Honor all *people*. Love the brotherhood. Fear God. Honor the king.

¹⁸ Servants, *be* submissive to *your* masters with all fear, not only to the good and gentle, but also to the harsh.

¹⁹ For this *is* commendable, if because of conscience toward God one endures grief, suffering wrongfully.

²⁰ For what credit *is it* if, when you are beaten for your faults, you take it patiently? But when you do good and suffer, if you take it patiently, this *is* commendable before God.

²¹ For to this you were called, because Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that you should follow His steps:

²² "Who committed no sin, Nor was deceit found in His mouth";

²³ who, when He was reviled, did not revile in return;

when He suffered, He did not threaten, but committed *Himself* to Him who judges righteously;

²⁴ who Himself bore our sins in His own body on the tree, that we, having died to sins, might live for righteousness-- by whose stripes you were healed.

²⁵ For you were like sheep going astray, but have now returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls.

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^{3:1} Wives, likewise, *be* submissive to your own husbands, that even if some do not obey the word, they, without a word, may be won by the conduct of their wives,

² when they observe your chaste conduct *accompanied* by fear.

³ Do not let your adornment be *merely* outward-- arranging the hair, wearing gold, or putting on *fine* apparel--

⁴ rather *let it be* the hidden person of the heart, with the incorruptible *beauty* of a gentle and quiet spirit, which is very precious in the sight of God.

⁵ For in this manner, in former times, the holy women who trusted in God also adorned themselves, being submissive to their own husbands,

⁶ as Sarah obeyed Abraham, calling him lord, whose daughters you are if you do good and are not afraid with any terror.

⁷ Husbands, likewise, dwell with *them* with understanding, giving honor to the wife, as to the weaker vessel, and as *being* heirs together of the grace of life, that your prayers may not be hindered.