

Building A Healthy Church

Ephesians 5 RELATIONSHIPS



**PUT THE CAT
AMONG THE PIGEONS!**

Submission goes against our cultural, western, individual focused mind-set.

Selfishness, independence,
and dominance are so
culturally ingrained, but
biblically inappropriate.

(cf. Rom. 12:10; Gal. 5:13;
Phil. 2:3; 1 John 4:11)

**Submission=Paul was fond of this term
and used it 23 times.**

- Verse 21 is a universal spiritual principle of mutual submission between believers connected to the Spirit-filled life.
- All Christians who are filled with the Holy Spirit are to relate to one another with Christ-like humility and a willingness to serve.
- Reinforces a key truth for Paul – 53 times “our Lord”, 1 time “my Lord”

Eph 5:22-6:9

Paul illustrates in a practical and revolutionary sense for the culture of the time, how this works out in one area of life (i.e., the Christian home).

1. husbands and wives,
Eph. 5:22-31
2. parents and children,
Eph. 6:1-4
3. masters and household slaves,
Eph. 6:5-9



Paul addresses both those in cultural power and authority as well as those with no power.

1. husbands
2. parents
3. slave owners

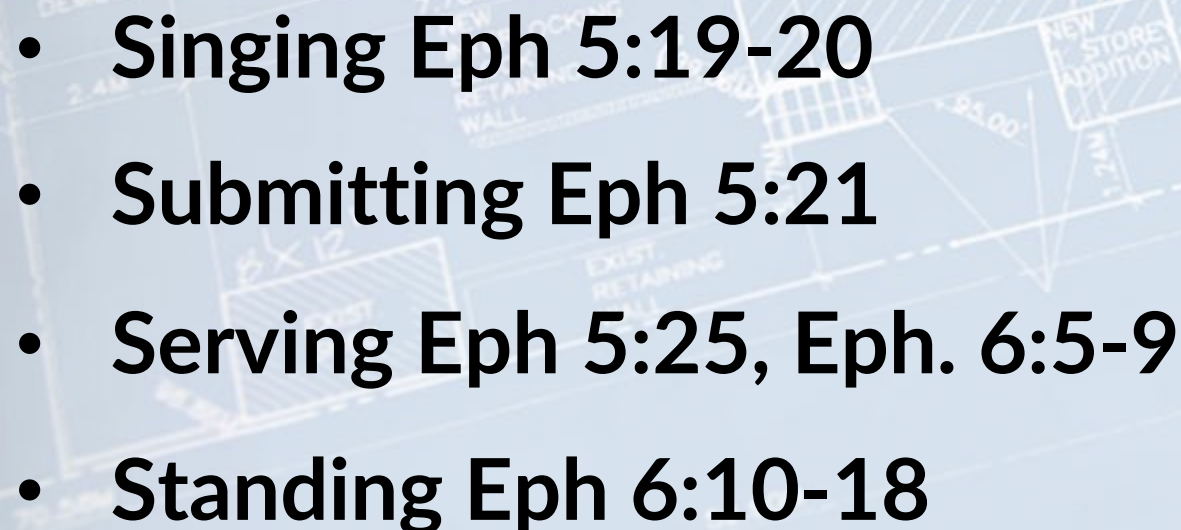
....as well as those with no power

1. wives
2. children
3. slaves

The command goes back to Eph. 5:18, "ever be filled with the Spirit,"

This is defined and illustrated by using the Christian home as one example.

Filled with the Holy Spirit should result in:

- 
- The background is a light blue architectural drawing. It features a retaining wall with a grid pattern, labeled 'RETAINING WALL' and 'EXIST. RETAINING WALL'. There are dimensions like '2.40', '95.00', and '1.24M'. A section labeled 'NEW STORE ADDITION' is also visible. The drawing includes various lines, angles, and technical notations typical of a site plan or section.
- Singing Eph 5:19-20
 - Submitting Eph 5:21
 - Serving Eph 5:25, Eph. 6:5-9
 - Standing Eph 6:10-18

The background features a person from the chest up, wearing a dark suit jacket over a light-colored shirt. They are holding an open book, likely a Bible, with both hands. The entire scene is overlaid with a semi-transparent architectural blueprint or map. The blueprint contains various labels such as "GARAGE", "FRONT PORCH", "DRIVEWAY", "EXIST. BUILDING", "STORY", "WALL", "AREA OF TABLE LAND", "NEW BLOCKING WALL", "RETAINING WALL", "EXIST. RETAINING WALL", "FRONT SETBACK", "ACTUAL GRADE ELEVATIONS SHOWN IN METRES", and several numerical values like "11.15M", "11.88M", "11.28M EXIST.", "7.76M", "95.00", "97.05", "100.00", "102.00", "104.00", "106.00", "108.00", "110.00", "112.00", "114.00", "116.00", "118.00", "120.00".

SUBMISSION IS NOT THE SAME AS SURRENDER

Surrender:giving up when you have been beaten into a position of loss,

Biblical submission is an active choice between equals who don't demand their own way or rights

THINK JESUS! Phil 2:5-7 no grasping for possession, position or privilege.

The background of the slide features a grayscale photograph of a person from the chest up, wearing a dark suit jacket and holding an open book. The image is semi-transparent, allowing architectural blueprints to be visible underneath. The blueprints contain various labels such as "GARAGE", "FRONT PORCH", "DRIVEWAY", "EXIST. BUILDING", "STORY", "WALL", "AREA OF TABLE LAND", "ACTUAL GRADE ELEVATIONS SHOWN IN METRES", and several numerical values like "11.15M", "11.88M", "11.28M EXIST.", "7.76M", "95.00", "97.05", "100.00", "102.00", "104.00", "106.00", "108.00", "110.00", "112.00", "114.00", "116.00", "118.00", "120.00".

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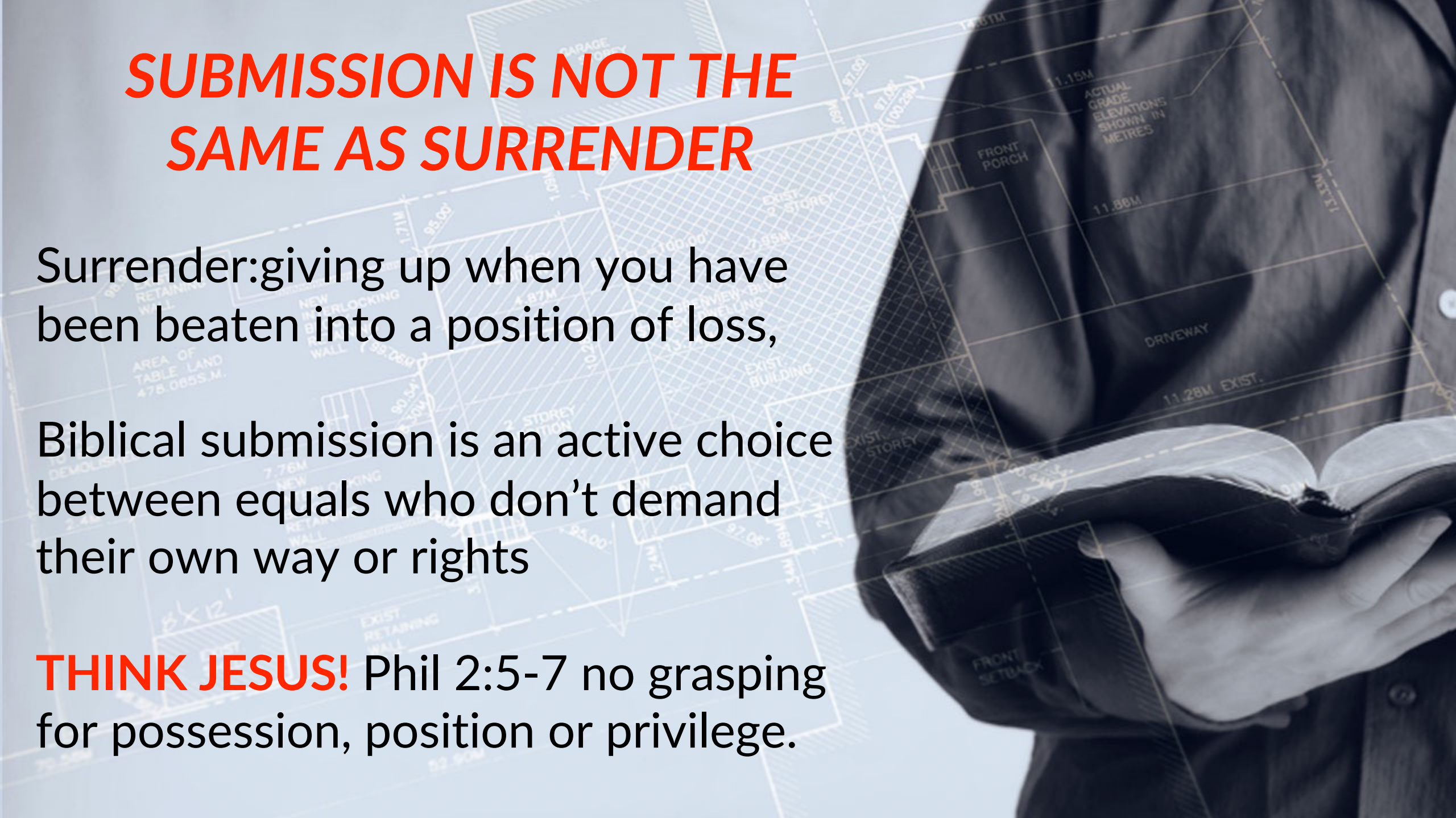
The background features a person in a dark suit holding an open book. Overlaid on this is a semi-transparent architectural blueprint or map with various labels like 'GARAGE', 'FRONT PORCH', 'DRIVEWAY', and 'EXIST. BUILDING'. The overall tone is professional and contemplative.

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Eph 5:21 “be submitting yourselves” to one another as a Christian community

GWT – *“Place yourself under each others authority out of respect for Christ”*

- not about getting your own way or winning the argument
- It's legitimate to express a personal preference but **NOT TO DEMAND** it be done a certain way
- parents, slaves, masters, husbands, wives, children

ALL 6 ARE PART OF THE CALL TO
HUMBLY SUBMIT



Eph 5:22

- It is not that the husband is the ultimate authority, wives to respect their husbands because of their own relationship to Christ.
- Jesus sets the pattern for both submission to authority (i.e., always the Father's will) and the exercise of authority (i.e., over the church for the sake of the church, Eph 1:22 “for the benefit of the church”, Eph. 5:25).



Submit = MILITARY TERM

arranging soldiers in ordered formation to confront an enemy. It means to be sent out to stand against an enemy on support of someone.

The grammar is important, too: “Deploy - yourself- under.”.

- Deploy yourself or send yourself out in support of your spouse against the enemy
- Fight for each other against an enemy.

Are you deploying your energies in support to fight for your husband or wife?



Eph 5:22 wives relationship to husband

Literally reads “wives to your husbands”

“place yourselves under your husbands authority as you have placed yourself under the Lords authority”

- Doesn't say husbands make your wives submit
- NOT general rule all women were submit to all men
- NOT in workplace that men should always be the boss. There are workplace principles and none say anything about men being in charge. That may be a CULTURAL NORM in some places but doesn't mean it's a BIBLICAL PRINCIPLE



Why so important in Ephesians?

Throughout the Roman Empire, a man was indeed the “lord” of his household, and women were “subject” to his authority.

According to Aristotle, women were to be viewed as “*the slaves and possessions of a man*”.

Eph 5:24 “kephale” head=source

- Some used this as a mandate for a man to dominate a woman.
- Term is used widely outside NT to mean “source”. Eve was sourced in man.
- It’s not about hierarchy or domination.

In all five NT usages of “head” (kephalē) concerning Christ and the church, the word depicts Jesus as the *nurturer* who *provides* for our *growth* and *well-being*

(Eph 1:22–23; Eph 4:15–16; Eph 5:24; Col 1:18–20; Col 2:18–19).

Eph 5:25 “Husbands love your wives”

- present, active and imperative.
- simply put, it is a command.
- Paul is indeed telling husbands what they “ought to do.”
- Is the husband **SACRIFICIAL** or **SELFISH?**
- Agape love - word used.



In fact, he uses this exact language of command not with wives to submit, but rather with husbands to love like Christ!

Ephesians 5:28: “So ought [ophelousin] husbands to love their wives.”

**THIS IS NOT A COMMAND THAT
GREEK, ROMAN OR JEWISH MEN
WOULD HAVE BEEN
ACCUSTOMED TO HEARING.**



Obey her husband no matter what? **NOT TRUE!**

NOT obey to sin

- If a husband asks the wife to sin
- If a husband forbids her to do something that God commands, she must disobey her husband.
- In other words, our allegiance to the Lord trumps our loyalty to our spouses
- (Acts 4:16–20).

Paul did not condoned women following their husbands into sinful practices (Acts 5:1–11, 27–29). He also never advocated that they subject themselves to abuse.

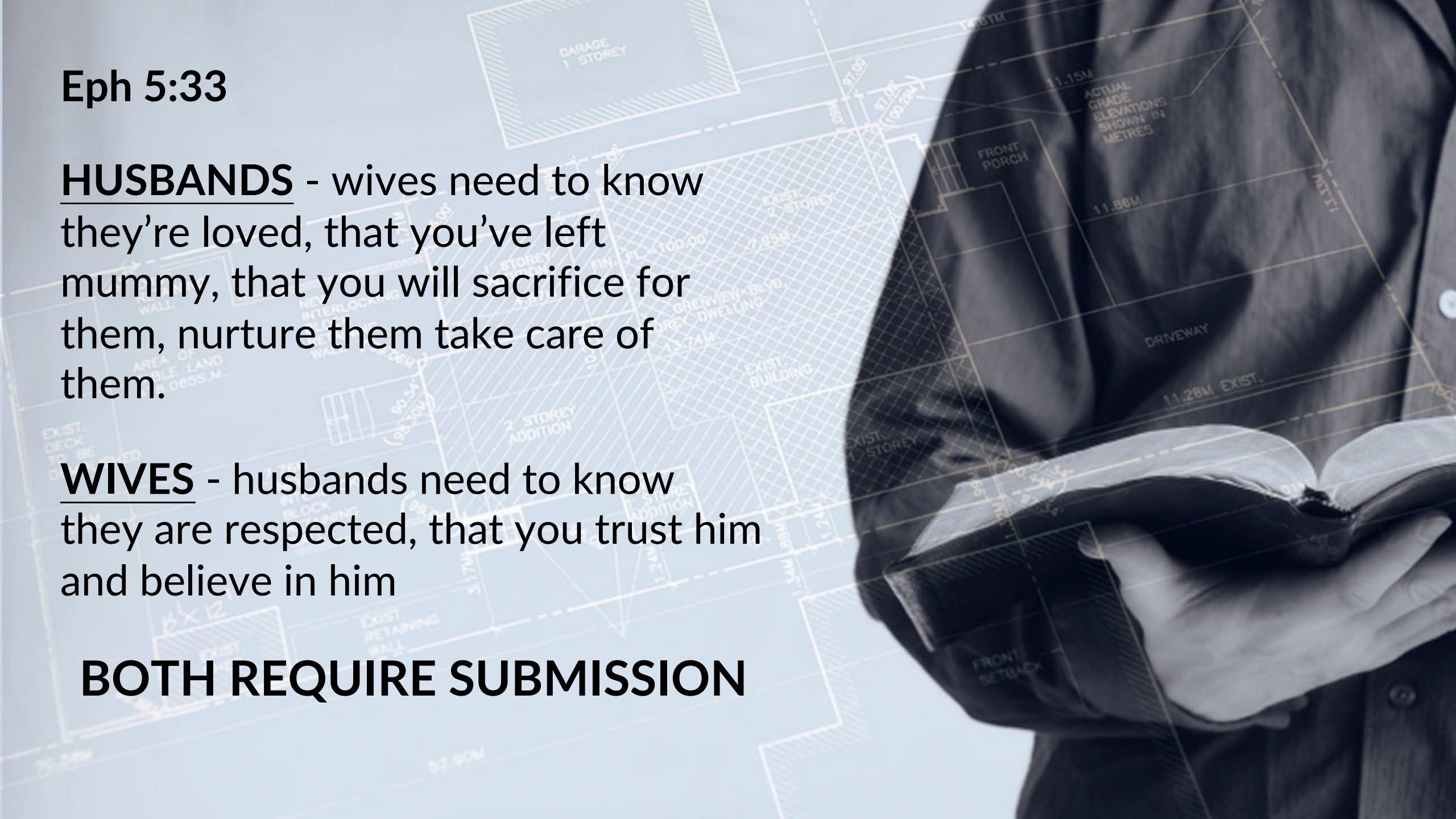


Eph 5:33

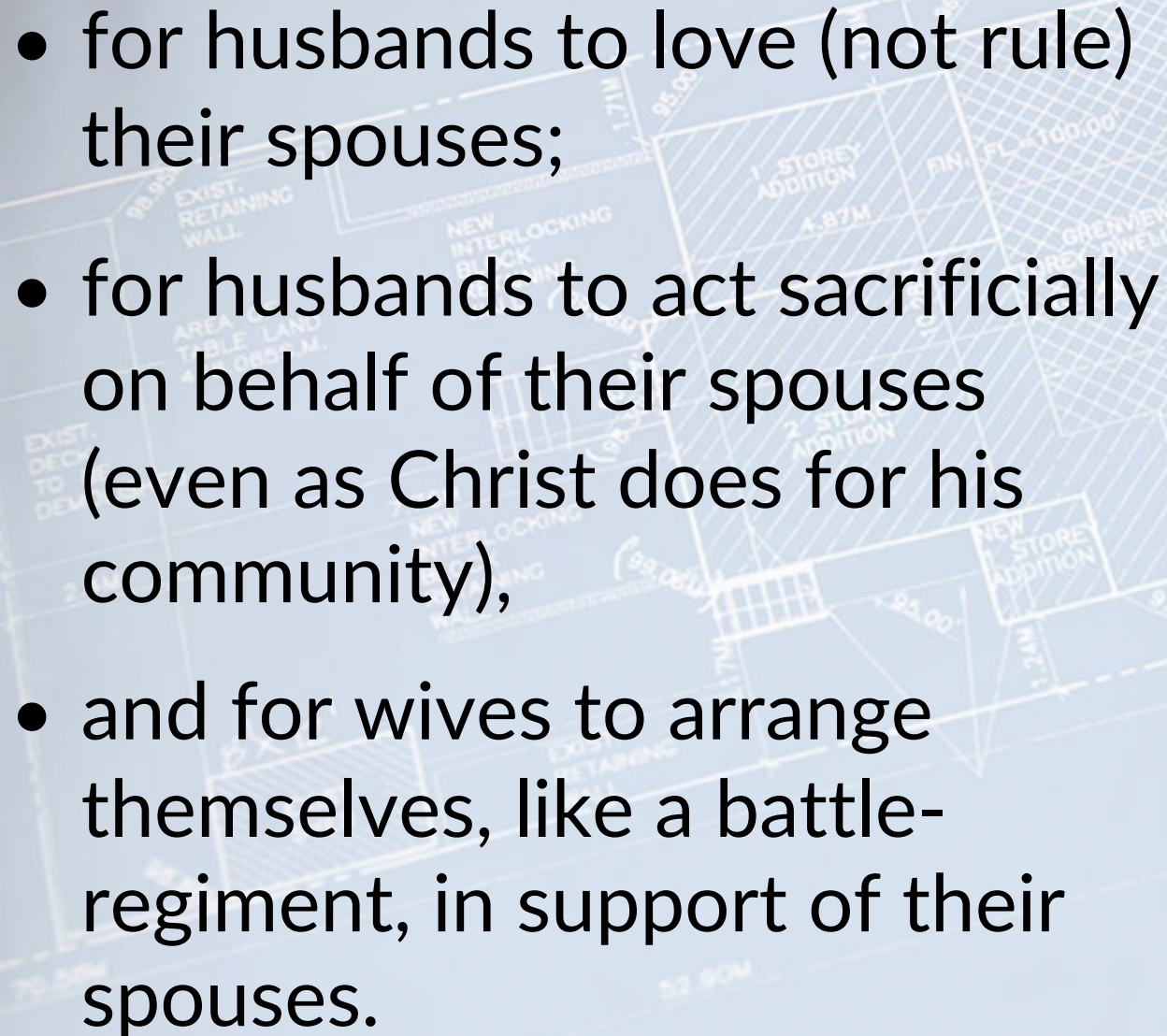
HUSBANDS - wives need to know they're loved, that you've left mummy, that you will sacrifice for them, nurture them take care of them.

WIVES - husbands need to know they are respected, that you trust him and believe in him

BOTH REQUIRE SUBMISSION



The recommendations that follow from Eph 5:

- 
- for husbands to love (not rule) their spouses;
 - for husbands to act sacrificially on behalf of their spouses (even as Christ does for his community),
 - and for wives to arrange themselves, like a battle-regiment, in support of their spouses.

[illegible]A person wearing a dark, long-sleeved shirt is holding a rolled-up document or blueprint. The background is a faint, light blue architectural blueprint with various lines, dimensions, and labels such as 'GARAGE', 'EXIST. RETAINING WALL', 'NEW INTERLOCKING BLOCK RETAINING WALL', 'AREA OF TABLE LAND', 'EXIST. DECK TO BE DEMOLISHED', '2.4M', '7.76M', 'NEW INTERLOCKING BLOCK RETAINING WALL', 'EXIST. RETAINING WALL', 'EXIST. SHED', '70.50M', '52.90M', 'GRENVIEW BLVD', 'STOREY DWELLING', 'EXIST. BUILDING', '2 STOREY ADDITION', 'NEW STOREY ADDITION', 'EXIST. 2 STOREY', 'FRONT PORCH', 'DRIVEWAY', '11.88M', '11.15M', 'ACTUAL GRADE ELEVATIONS SHOWN IN METRES', '11.28M EXIST.', 'FRONT SETBACK', and '14.81M'. The text 'CONCLUSION: What's your next step?' is overlaid in the upper left, and 'SPIRIT OR SUBMIT?' is overlaid in the lower left in red.

CONCLUSION:

What's your next step?

SPIRIT OR SUBMIT?



CONCLUSION:

What's your next step?

SPIRIT OR **SUBMIT**?



NEED PRAYER TODAY?

Please join us at the front.