

13. Likewise, how does verse 11 follow on from verse 9 and what does it mean in practice?

14. What does verse 9 say about obtaining a blessing and what is actually promised in verse 10 and 12?

## Pray

Pray for those struggling with feelings of low self-esteem in our image conscious society and pray for those who are victims of domestic violence and abuse. Pray that our society would recognise the harm caused by ungodly values and that Christians would uphold Biblical teaching.

Pray for your church fellowship that you would be concerned with the things you have read about - a common mind, sympathy, brotherly love, tender hearts and humble minds.

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# 1 Peter

## Week 6 : Godly Living

### 1 Peter 3.1-12

### Likewise, wives

#### Read 1 Peter 3.1-6

1. Who was told to be subject to whom in 2.13 & 2.18 and for what purpose (see v16 & v19)?

2. Here in v1 and in 5.5 we have two more instructions to “be subject to”. Are all these still important, or possible, in the modern world.?

3. Is it fair to say that in many areas of life we are witnessing a break-down of authority and respect for authority?

4. Verse 1 is about all wives but it then specifically mentions the wives of unbelieving husbands. How does it suggest such a wife can win her husband and do you think this can work?

5. Verses 3 and 4 mention “adorning” but doesn’t seem to prohibit all hairstyling and jewellery because that would then suggest all clothes were also prohibited! What does it mean in practice?

6. A recent report by the Girl Guides said that 93% of 11 to 21 years olds felt judged more by appearance than ability whilst 80% felt their looks were the most important thing about them. They also reported a significant drop in girls' feelings of self-esteem. Why do you think girls feel this way?

7. From verses 3 and 4 was the survey asking the right sort of question in simply contrasting appearance and ability?

8. Whilst these verses are about wives do they apply more generally to girls and women how can we encourage such Biblical teaching when we live in such an image and achievement driven world?

## **Likewise, husbands**

### **Read 1 Peter 3.7**

*The comment about 'weaker vessel' can raise hackles today. Assuming it means just generally physically weaker we can see that today women are twice as like to suffer "partner abuse" (this is broader than just violence) and that twelve times more men than women are prosecuted for "domestic abuse".*

9. How should a husband put into practice what is said in verse 7.

10. What do you think it means "that your prayers are not hindered"?

## **Finally, all of you**

### **Read 1 Peter 3.8-12**

*Verses 10-12 quote and adapt the words of Psalm 34.12-16.*

11. Verse 8 contains a list of five expressions, the 1st & 5th are about thinking, the 2nd & 4th about feeling, and the middle one about affection. How are each of these important in church life and how can we cultivate them?

a) unity of mind

b) sympathy (to suffer with)

c) brotherly love

d) tender heart (literally this is a sort of pit of the stomach feeling)

e) humble mind

12. Verse 9 goes with the quotation that follows. How does the second half of verse 10, about what we say, follow on from verse 9 and what does it mean in practice?