

## Lesson 15

### Colossians 3:18

Day 1

#### KEEP IT IN PERSPECTIVE

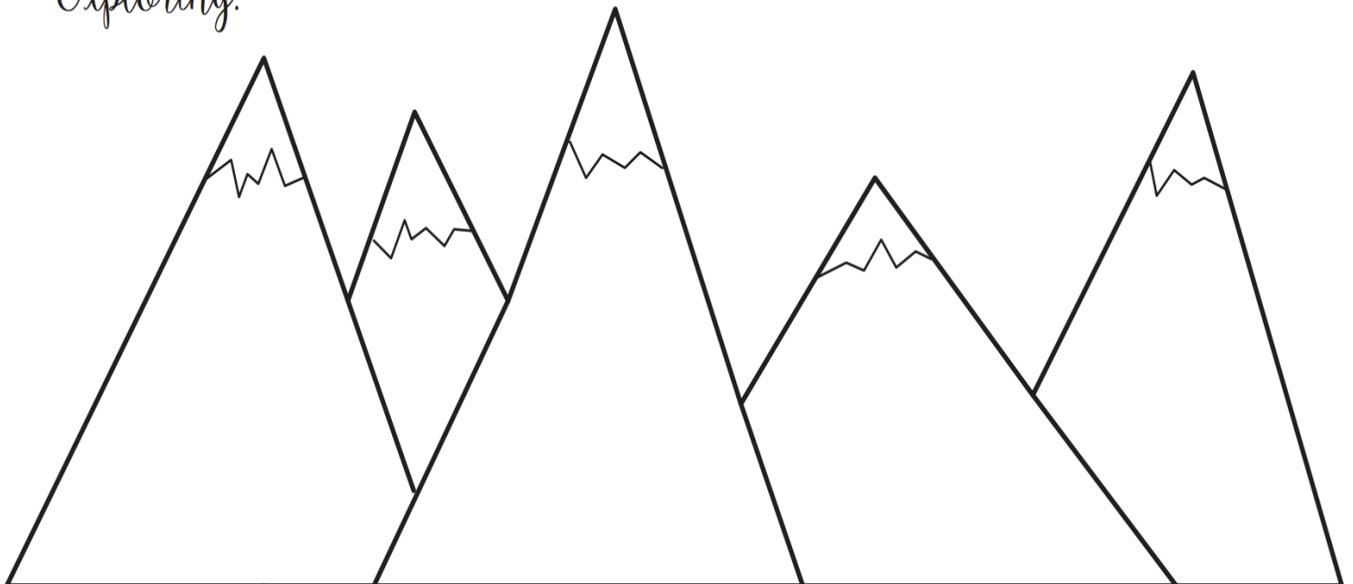
1. In the box below, explain verses 18-25 in only one or two sentences. Think about how you would explain it to a 10 year old child. I usually ask myself, “Who is doing what, and why is he doing it?” This is usually enough to get the main point of the thought into one or two sentences.

Verses 1-4	Verses 5-11	Verses 12-17	Verses 18-25
Paul is concerned that they may be deluded from the wealth that comes from true knowledge in Christ and instructs them to walk in Him as they were originally instructed	Their position in Christ: being dead to sin and alive in Christ makes it possible for them to not be taken captive to worldly philosophies and empty deception	Set-apart believers are called to live set-apart lives in their minds and actions toward one another.	

#### EXPLORING THE THEME

2. Look for the word: LORD. Write down the verses where you find this word and what you learn about them.

*Exploring:*



## Day 2

3. What is the command given in Colossians 3:18 and how is it to be carried out?
  
4. As we look at this verse we remember that the command for wives to be subject to their husbands is given in the context of RENEWED RELATIONSHIPS. In this section, Paul begins his teaching on relationships with the role of the wife. Colossians 3:18 is a passage that has been widely challenged. Therefore, we need to have a right understanding of it so that we might glorify the Lord. Look up the Greek word for “be subject to” which is *hupotassó* (Strong's G5293) and define it.
  
5. Ephesians 5:22 is a parallel text to Colossians 3:18 where the wording almost identical.
  - a. On what had Paul been teaching in Ephesians 5:15-21?
  
  - b. In Ephesians 5:21, to whom does Paul first apply this concept?
  
  - c. In Ephesians 5:22, to whom is the wife subject and in what manner?
  
6. What difference do you see between Ephesians 5:22 and Colossians 3:18?

7. Are wives the only ones to be in a role of submission? The Greek word for “submission,” *hypotassó*, is used 43 times in the New Testament. Look up the following samples of those Scriptures and record what you learn about each usage:

Luke 2:51:

Luke 10:17:

Romans 8:20:

Romans 13:1:

1 Corinthians 11:3:

1 Corinthians 15:26-28:



#### GROWING IN RESPECT TO SALVATION

8. On page 116 of the book *Becoming God's True Woman*, Barbara Hughes has the following encouragement for wives:

Three of the New Testament passages that call women to submit to their husbands include an important and instructive phrase. Ephesians 5:22 says, “Wives, submit to your husbands **as to the Lord.**” Colossians 3:18 similarly reads, “Wives, submit to your husbands, **as is fitting in the Lord.**” These parallel phrases serve as reminders to all wives that submission in marriage must be with the same loving wholeheartedness with which we submit to the Lord. When we submit to our spouses, we are once again agreeing with God that His beautiful ordered plan is worth obeying and the mystery worth preserving. By so doing we once again acknowledge Jesus as Lord.

Prayerfully consider how you are doing in submitting to your husband as unto the Lord. What are the specific areas in which you struggle the most to follow his leadership? How can your group pray for you as you strive to please the Lord as a godly wife?

## Day 3

9. Sarah was a wonderful example of a woman who had a heart of submission and trusted the Lord. She really understood what it meant to “be subject to her husband as to the Lord.” Read Genesis 12:10-20 and answer the following questions:
  - a. What happened in this text?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  - b. As a wife, in what ways are you encouraged by this text?
  
10. How was it that Sarah could submit to Abraham, according to 1 Peter 3:1-6? Answer the questions below before you formulate your answer.
  - a. 1 Peter 3:1 begins with “in the same way.” To what in 1 Peter 2:21-25 does this refer?
  
  
  
  
  
  - b. In 1 Peter 2:21-24 how specifically was Jesus, Himself, able to model submission for believers?
  
  
  
  
  
  - c. According to 1 Peter 3:5, what was the motivation for submission of the holy women of old?
  
  
  
  
  
  - d. According to 1 Peter 3:6, what is one major reason women do not want to submit to their husbands?
  
  
  
  
  
  - e. In light of what you have learned, how was it that Sarah could submit to Abraham? How can a wife have a heart of submission toward her husband?



## GROWING IN RESPECT TO SALVATION

11. What are some areas in which you might be frightened to submit to your husband right now, where you fear he may lead you down the wrong road? Finances? Parenting? Other areas?



## Day 5

14. Submission is not always easy for wives to carry out, and it was not always easy for Jesus either. When Jesus struggled in the garden of Gethsemane with His impending crucifixion, what did He do according to Matthew 26:36-46? What was Daniel's response to the threat of death if he continued to worship the Lord (Daniel 6:10)?

15. How powerful is your God? In what truths do the following verses encourage you when you do not like/agree with what your husband has planned for you or your family?

1 Samuel 2:4-8

Daniel 4:35

Proverbs 21:1

Proverbs 16:1

Luke 1:50-53



### GROWING IN RESPECT TO SALVATION

16. Submission may not be easy, but definitely possible. Write out a prayer to God affirming the truths of which you were reminded through this week's lesson. Specifically apply this to the situation you wrote about in Question 11.