

Husband and Wife Prayer - The Lord has revealed to us that demons can have access to us because of the incorrect dynamic between husband and wife. The correct order/dynamic is when the husband and wife respect, love and honour one another as equals, and when the wife allows the husband to protect her as the weaker vessel. The Word of God tells us that man and woman are equal; they are both created in the image of God. **So God created man in His own image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them (Genesis 1:27, NKJV).** The Bible tells us that man and woman when joined become one flesh, not two separate entities, so not one is greater than the other. **Therefore a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and they shall become one flesh (Genesis 2:24, NKJV).** In the Garden of Eden Eve ate the forbidden fruit, and then coerced Adam to do the same. This act created a curse to come upon man and woman. **To the woman He said: "I will greatly multiply your sorrow and your conception; in pain you shall bring forth children; your desire shall be for your husband, and he shall rule over you" (Genesis 3:16, NKJV).** This poses a problem. Men and woman are cursed for man to rule over the woman. The Jezebel spirit coerced woman to rise up in disobedience, to proclaim back equality, so in turn tried to rule over the husband. Disunity, chaos, bickering, and contention was borne. Having no respect in the home between mum and dad can enable children to learn from their parent's example, in turn resulting in dishonour towards mum and dad. This in turn brings rebellion into the mix. The following scripture spoken by Paul has been misused by many as a means for the husband to continue to dominate the wife. **Submission to Husbands: 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, when they observe your chaste conduct accompanied by fear. Do not let your adornment be merely outward—arranging the hair, wearing gold, or putting on fine apparel— 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. For in this manner, in former times, the holy women who trusted in God also adorned themselves, being submissive to their own husbands, as Sarah obeyed Abraham, calling him lord, whose daughters you are if you do good and are not afraid with any terror. A Word to Husbands: Husbands, likewise, dwell with them with understanding, giving honour 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 (1 Peter 3: 1-7, NKJV).**

The word submit (**Hupotasso** in Greek) means 'be subject to', to get under and lift up, to put in order, to subject one's self, obey, to submit to one's control, to yield to one's admonition or advice. **Submitting yourselves one to another in the fear of God. Wives, submit yourselves unto your own husbands, as unto the Lord. For the husband is the head of the wife, even as Christ is the head of the church: and he is the saviour of the body. Therefore as the church is subject unto Christ, so let the wives be to their own husbands in everything. Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it; That he might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the word, That he might present it to himself a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing; but that it should be holy and without blemish. So ought men to love their wives as their own bodies. He that loveth his wife loveth himself. For no man ever yet hated his own flesh; but nourisheth and cherisheth it, even as the Lord the church: For we are members of his body, of his flesh, and of his bones. For this cause shall a man leave his father and mother, and shall be joined unto his wife, and they two shall be one flesh. This is a great mystery: but I speak concerning Christ and the church. Nevertheless let every one of you in particular so love his wife even as himself; and the wife see that she reverence her husband. (Ephesians 5:21-33, KJV).** By this Scripture we see that husbands and wives are to submit to one another. Submit is better translated as 'identifying with' and 'supporting one another' in our God given roles as well as humbling ourselves and exalting one another. Husbands are not to rule over the wife, nor take power over her, as this is part of the curse that Christ came to break off believers. The relationship between husband and wife is about honouring and respecting each other's roles in the house and marriage. The wife is made as the weaker vessel and needs to allow the husband to protect and care for her and the family. He is her covering. He is the head of her and the family in the sense that He is responsible for the provision and well-being of His family. **But if anyone does not provide for his own, and especially for those of his household, he has denied the faith and is worse than an unbeliever (1 Timothy 5:8, NKJV).** The wife needs to honour and support him in this role of leadership. Many argue that because woman is made from man, he has dominance over her. This is incorrect.

For as woman came from man, even so man also comes through woman; but all things are from God (1 Corinthians 11:12, NKJV). This Scripture shows equality as the woman also gives birth to the man. Another scripture used for men to rule over the wife is: **The head over every man is Christ, the head over woman is man and the head over Christ is God (1 Corinthians 11:3, NKJV).** God's order is that the husband is the head of the wife as God is the head of Christ. The word **Head** when taken back to the Greek means superiority. How is man superior to the woman when they are created equal, and how is God superior when God and Jesus are one and created equal? **For when I am weak, then I am strong (2 Corinthians 12:10, NKJV).** The husband is physically stronger so protects the weaker vessel in the physical. Jesus also had weakness in His flesh as He humbled himself and became a man. **For whoever exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted (Luke 14:11, NKJV).** He came in humility as a servant, to serve, but there is no inequality or inferiority between them.

Please note the following Scripture: **Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus, who, being in the form of God, did not consider it robbery to be equal with God, but made Himself of no reputation, taking the form of a bondservant, and coming in the likeness of men. And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself and became obedient to the point of death, even the death of the cross. Therefore God also has highly exalted Him and given Him the name which is above every name (Philippians 2:5-9, NKJV).** Jesus was equal with God as He is God, but made Himself lower by becoming a man in a servant role. God then exalted Him above all things. **Wherefore God also hath highly exalted him, and given him a name which is above every name: That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth; And that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father (Philippians 2:9 – 11, KJV).**

You have heard Me say to you, 'I am going away and coming back to you.' If you loved Me, you would rejoice because I said, 'I am going to the Father,' for My Father is greater than I' (John 14:28, NKJV). We know by Scripture that God and Jesus are equal but in **John** Jesus is saying that God the Father is greater than He. God and Christ are equal and united, just as the husband and the wife are one. The kingdom is about humility and becoming as servants. In the humbling of oneself one to the other we are exalted. I believe also to have Christ as head over us, it implies a protective covering. Christ is our covering. The husband protects the wife and the family, as Christ protects them both. How can Christ protect a family when there is no unity between husband and wife? **Though one may be overpowered by another, two can withstand him. And a threefold cord is not quickly broken (Ecclesiastes 4:12, NKJV).**

God revealed to Mark and I that I did not submit to Mark as head over me because I did not trust him to keep our children safe from the dangers of the world. I came from a background of hurt, rejection and sexual abuse. I was over-protective toward the children. I smothered them and struggled to let them be 'kids'. Mark was the complete opposite. He came from a family of praying Christians and was not subjected to a world like me. It was as though he couldn't see danger in anything which in turn caused me to take on the role of double-protector. God told us that He was going to remove the burden of being sole-protector from me and in turn pass a bit of what I had to Mark to bring about a healthy balance. I had to forgive Mark for not protecting the children (to my standards) and he in turn had to forgive me for not seeing him as our protector because of my idiosyncrasies. He told us to lay ourselves and everything that makes us tick as the foot of the cross. There were many other things that Mark and I did that were in complete opposition to one another which caused many a conflict. I was over-sensitive, Mark was mostly insensitive. I was emotional, Mark was emotionless. I was a big softie to the children in comparison to Mark who was very strict. Husband and Wife become one flesh when they marry. Unity is what God intended. God showed us that He was going to give us unity and an understanding of one another by removing, changing, re-jigging and exchanging those things within us as a couple that were not yet perfected by Him which caused disunity. He was going to issue back what He wanted us to have with divine balance!

Husbands and wives also need to lay down their flesh and their drives and see each other as more important, just as Christ laid down his life for His bride. Husbands and wives also need to give authority of their own bodies over to one another. **The wife does not have authority over her own body, but the husband does. And likewise the husband does not have authority over his own body, but the wife does (1 Corinthians 7:4, NKJV).**

Prayer for Husband: (Husband) - "Dear God, in the name of Jesus Christ I repent on behalf of myself and ancestors for the incorrect order between husband and wife. I repent that I haven't humbled myself and exalted my wife. I repent on behalf of Adam who allowed himself to be tempted by Eve to eat of the forbidden fruit. I repent for myself and every man in my bloodline who ruled over woman believing themselves to be greater. I repent also for not protecting woman as the weaker vessel, instead abusing and treating them with dishonour, contempt and lack of respect. I repent also for myself and all men in my bloodline for allowing woman to dominate and disrespect us. I lay down to You Lord Jesus my need to control. I lay all fleshly needs, desires and drives at the foot of the cross. I repent for putting these desires ahead of my wife. I ask You to help me see my wife as more important than my fleshly needs. I ask you (*wife's name*) on behalf of yourself and all the women in your bloodline to forgive me on behalf of myself and all men for hatred and dishonour toward women. I ask forgiveness for also not protecting you and the children as the weaker vessel and for not fulfilling my duties as head of the house".

(Wife) – "I forgive you".

(Husband) - (*Take wife's hand and say*) - "I honour you, cherish you, protect you and affirm you as my wife. I give you authority over my body in Jesus name and ask God to bless you".

Prayer for Wife: (Wife) - "Dear God, in the name of Jesus Christ I repent on behalf of myself and ancestors for the incorrect order of husband and wife. I repent that I haven't humbled myself and exalted my husband. I repent on behalf of Eve who ate of the forbidden fruit in the Garden of Eden, then tempted Adam to do the same. I repent for all the woman in my bloodline, including myself for allowing ourselves to be dominated, disrespected and abused by men. I repent also for myself and all woman in my bloodline who tried to dominate and rule over men, as well as refusing to be seen as the weaker vessel and not allowing man to protect us and our children. I repent for worshipping the Jezebel movement. I repent for dishonour, abuse and lack of respect shown to men. I lay down to You Lord Jesus my need to control. I lay all fleshly needs, desires and drives at the foot of the cross. I repent for putting these desires ahead of my husband. I ask You to help me see my husband as more important than my fleshly needs. I ask you (*husband's name*) on behalf of yourself and all the men in your bloodline to forgive me on behalf of myself and all women for hatred and dishonour towards men. I ask forgiveness for not respecting you as you should have been".

(Husband) – "I forgive you".

(Wife) - "I submit to you and acknowledge your protection, love and support as head over me and our family. I give you authority over my body in Jesus name and I ask God to bless you".

(Husband and wife) - "We forgive Adam and Eve for the curse of man ruling over woman. We break this curse in Jesus name and declare that we are equal. We are both created in the image of Father God. Help us Lord Jesus to always show love, honour and respect to one another. We now hand the reins over to you Lord Jesus as head over us and our family. We lay at the foot of the cross 'ourselves' and everything else that makes us tick. We ask that You give back to us a divine balance so that we can operate in unity as one flesh and as You intended. We ask that You bless this Holy union in Jesus name – Amen". *If husband and wife still find they cannot agree on certain things, then submit it to the Lord and ask Him to show you the correct way!*

Binding couples together - This is a powerful prayer binding a couple together. You will need to get someone else to pray it over you.

(PRAY) - "In the name of Jesus Christ I want to tie a bond between you – linking you spiritually – this bond will withstand and not break easily.

(A *prophetic act*) – "I bind you both together with spiritual ropes – ropes of love, unity, peace and understanding. I break the chains of division and separation – arguments, strife, anger and lies. I release love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. I impart an impenetrable love between you both that is like a fortress that cannot be touched by the evil one. No arrow, no dart, no devil, person, or demon will ever divide, conquer or make this wall of love fall. ***A threefold cord is not easily broken (Ecclesiastes 4:12, KJV).***