

**Sermon Notes**  
**Good News Church**  
***“Good News 101 – Basic Essentials of Faith & GNC Vision, Mission, and Values”***  
***Humble Submission (Part 2)***  
**Drue Warner**  
**10-12-25**

**OVERVIEW** – We’re talking about who we are as a church, what we believe, and what difference what we believe makes in our lives.

- **Vision** – *“to experience and express LOVE from God and to others.”*
  - **Verse** – The verse that undergirds our vision is, *Galatians 5:6b, “The only thing that counts is faith expressing itself through love.”*
- **Mission** – Our mission is *“to connect with people and build relationships through community workshops, neighborhood-focused ministry, serving local needs, mentoring, and worship.”*

**THE GOOD NEWS**

- *“Once you were alienated from God and were enemies in your minds because of your evil behavior. But now he has reconciled you by Christ’s physical body through death to present you holy in his sight, without blemish and free from accusation.” - Colossians 1:21-22*

**GNC BELIEFS**

1. I’m really broken and I need help.
2. Jesus is perfect and He is my help.
3. Jesus is the only way to healing in my relationship with God.
4. The Holy Spirit is my power to live as a follower of Jesus.
5. **God calls me to submit to His authority and to serve His Church**

**LAST WEEK... 5. God calls me to submit to His authority and to serve His Church**

**THIS WEEK... Submission - Part 2**

**RECAP**

**What is submission (definition)?**

- to yield oneself to the authority or will of another; to permit oneself to be subjected to someone or something; willful obedience to another; humility

**Why does “submission” make us uncomfortable?**

- Giving up Control
- Operating in Weakness
- Making ourselves Vulnerable

**Why do we resist submission?**

- Pride
- Abuse
- “Humble yourselves, therefore, under God’s mighty hand, that he may lift you up in due time. Cast all your anxiety on him because he cares for you.” – 1 Peter 5:6-7

### Why does God want us to submit?

- Submission is the way of God (the Trinity), it’s the way of love, and specifically, **it’s the way of Jesus**. Submission is for our good.
  - to submit (yield) is the way of love (patient, kind, gentle, not pursuing selfish gain but the good of another)
  - submission = meekness (strength under control)

### Compelling reasons (benefits) of submission

- **Protection**
- **Help**
- **Freedom**
  - Dog off leash at Suwanee Town Center Park
  - Joy grabbing sewing material upstairs > loss of upstairs freedom
- **Rest**
- **Growth (we all... become mature. – Ephesians 4:11-13)**

### To whom should we submit?

- Spouse (Ephesians 5)
- Children > Parents (Ephesians 6)
- Government Authorities (Romans 13),
- Boss at Work (Ephesians 6)
- **Jesus > The Church, His Authority on the earth (Titus 3, Hebrews 13)**
  - We are not free agents, independent contractors, or a crowd filling in seats for a show. We are the family of God, the Body of Christ.

**Church family - “Have confidence in your leaders and submit to their authority, because they keep watch over you as those who must give an account. Do this so that their work will be a joy, not a burden, for that would be of no benefit to you.” - Hebrews 13:17**

**Church Leaders - Keep watch over yourselves and all the flock of which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers. Be shepherds of the church of God, which he bought with his own blood. – Acts 20:28**

### Motivation to Submission

Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, **in view of God’s mercy**, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God—this is your true and proper worship. – Romans 12:1

- “Once you were alienated from God and were enemies in your minds because of your evil behavior. But now **he has reconciled you by Christ’s physical body through death** to present you holy in his sight, without blemish and free from accusation.” - Colossians 1:21-22

## THIS WEEK

- **Benefits of Submission to Christ and the Church**
- **Components of Submission**

**DISCLAIMER:** Submission is NOT what humans do naturally. It’s what God does naturally, but not us. SO... Any act of submission (yielding, obedience, humility) MUST be empowered by God’s Spirit in us.

- “God’s thoughts and ways are not our ways. His thoughts and ways are higher and we don’t understand them.” – Isaiah 55:8-9

## Benefits of Submission to the local Church

- **Safety net of care** from your spiritual family
  - **Elder Shepherding** – unexpected crisis, marriage distress, counsel, prayer
  - **Deacon Care** – help moving, A/C replacement, mortgage payment
  - **Committed Community** – we are created for community
- **Loneliness** - “God does not intend for you to be lonely and isolated. Loneliness has been described as ‘a homesickness for God.’ God created you for community – calling you into a loving relationship with him and with other human beings.. who know and love God. We are called to be a community where many lonely, isolated people find love and forgiveness – a community of the people of God.. This is the answer to loneliness.” – Nicky Gumbel
- **Unbelief** - “One of the remedies to unbelief is community where we ‘encourage one another daily’ (Hebrews 3:13). This is why it is so important to be part of Christian community, spending time with other Christians, encouraging one another and building up your faith. Church is not an organization you join; it is a family where you belong, a home where you are loved and a hospital where you find healing.” – Nicky Gumbel
- **Support** - “God never intended you to fight your battles alone. He called you to be a part of a strong, healthy, vibrant, growing community of his people... The community of Jesus is the most wonderful community on earth. It is ‘held together by love’ (Hebrews 14:1, MSG).” – Nicky Gumbel
  - **Run to community, not isolation.**

**Components of Submission** = Trust + Humility + Commitment

- **Trust** is critically important to submission.
  - What are the roadblocks that may be keeping you from trusting God?
    - Is God good?
      - “For the Lord is good and his love endures forever; his faithfulness continues through all generations.” – Psalm 100:5
      - “Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights, who does not change like shifting shadows.” – James 1:17
  - What are the roadblocks keeping you from trusting the Church?
    - Qualifications for trustworthy leaders (Titus 1, 1 Timothy 3) – blameless, faithful, not overbearing, not quick-tempered, not given to drunkenness, not violent, not dishonest, hospitable, loves what is good, self-controlled, upright, holy, disciplined, able to teach
- **Humility** is the character quality most necessary for submission.
  - **We do not naturally want to submit or surrender to any authority other than our own. That’s why we need it!** Our selfish, prideful, sinful nature desire independence and autonomy, but God, in His sovereign love, calls us to surrender to His Kingship and to His authority.
- Why is **Commitment** important? What difference does it make?
  - Commitment differentiates family from guests.
  - **Commitment says,** *“You can be yourself (broken, blemished, messed up, fearful, anxious, angry, insecure self) and as much as you might get on my nerves, I’m not going anywhere. I’m here for you.”*

### **Beauty of Submission**

Submission is a misunderstood and greatly abused word, but the reality is that “**submission**” is a beautiful act of humility, trust, and courage.

### **A Loving Parent**

When people in the Church submit to the authority of the Church, they are trusting that, as they submit, the Church will care for them as would a loving parent.

**HURT & PAIN** - When a child is hurt, discouraged, sad, or wounded, they know that they can run to their loving parent, climb up in their lap, and be embraced with love.

**CONFLICT & DISOBEDIENCE** - At the same time, when a child is acting out of line and in disobedience, their loving parent will also pursue them, shepherd them, and discipline in a loving way, all for the purpose of repentance and restored relationship.

- *Brothers and sisters, if someone is caught in a sin, you who live by the Spirit should **restore that person gently**. But watch yourselves, or you also may be tempted. **Carry each other's burdens**, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ (to love God and one another). If anyone thinks they are something when they are not, they deceive themselves. – Galatians 6:1-3*

**We need God and we need each other but fully entering into those (and all) relationships, involves submission.**

*“You can’t have God as your Father if you don’t have the church as your Mother.”*  
– St. Cyprian, a third-century bishop

There are two things that are true about the Church (the Bride of Christ) to whom we are called to submit.

1. She’s ugly. Life is messy. We are messy. Church is messy. But...
2. She’s loved... And in Christ, so are we!

### **CONFESSION & SUBMISSION**

Many of us would say that we do believe in Jesus and have received Him as our Savior, but **along with CONFESSION, there must be SUBMISSION to God’s authority**, which is His Church (the Body of Christ, the Bride of Christ, the family of God). Where are you?

Confession and Submission (by faith through grace) connect us into God’s family as His adopted children, and that family is the Church.

As messed up as we are, when we confess Christ and submit to His authority, we find the greatest security, support, and blessing that are possibly available in this life, because “Once you were alienated from God and were enemies in your minds because of your evil behavior” (Colossians 1:21), but now, because of the rescuing love of Christ, you have been brought into the family of God, to whom you have committed and who has committed to you.

### **CLOSING THOUGHT**

**We’re gonna fail each other, we’re gonna hurt each other, and we’re gonna make a mess of things sometimes.** But, when we are all submitted together, under the Lordship of Christ, as His Body / His Bride / His Kids, **He will hold us together, clean up the mess, and enable us to grow in spiritual maturity and love**, both individually and also together, as a community.

And when we submit ourselves to one another, care for one another, and carry each others burdens, THIS is the kind of love that’s attractive to a lost and hurting world, a world that needs Jesus the same way that we do. **And THAT’S Good News!**