

# COLLISION

Steering Clear of Collisions in Marriage:

Power & Submission

Ephesians 5:21; Philippians 2:1-11

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**When we operate within the parameters of God, we can steer clear of relational collisions.**

My sin and others' sin against me (wounds) compound to create radical self-centeredness that results in more relational separateness.

I easily see my pain, but not my problem.

I easily see my spouse's problem, but not my spouse's pain.

Ephesians 5:21, "Submit to one another out of reverence for Christ." (NIV)

**God supplies me with the power to submit – to put others before myself.**

**Mutual submission is the foundation of oneness in relationships.**

What does submission look like?

Philippians 2:1-8, "1 Therefore if you have any encouragement from being united with Christ, if any comfort from his love, if any common sharing in the Spirit, if any tenderness and compassion, 2 then make my joy complete by being like-minded, having the same love, being one in spirit and of one mind. 3 Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves, 4 not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others. 5 In your relationships with one another, have the same mindset of mind Christ Jesus had: Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be used to his own advantage; 7 rather, he made himself nothing by taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness. 8 And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to death – even death on a cross!" (NIV)

**Self-centeredness is countered through submission and service.**

Philippians 2:9-11, "9 Therefore God exalted him to the highest place and gave him the name that is above every name, 10 that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, 11 and every tongue acknowledge that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father." (NIV)

**The way to exaltation is always through submission.**

Matthew 23:12, "For whoever exalts himself will be humbled, and whoever humbles himself will be exalted." (NIV)

1 Peter 5:5-6, "...God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble. 6 Humble yourselves, therefore, under God's mighty hand, that he may lift you up in due time." (NIV)

John 17:14-17, "14 Now that I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also should wash one another's feet. 15 I have set you an example that you should do as I have done for you. 16 Very truly I tell you, no servant is greater than his master, nor is a messenger greater than the one who sent him. 17 Now that you know these things, you will be blessed if you do them." (NIV)

**Transforming Question: What can I do to serve you?**

"The primary point of marriage is to teach you to wash the feet of another sinner." – Elyse Fitzpatrick

**What if marriage was not just to make me happy, but to make me holy?**

Ephesians 5:21, "Submit to one another out of reverence for Christ." (NIV)

**I will put my spouse before myself not because of who my spouse is or what my spouse has done, but because of who Jesus Christ is and what he has done.**