

## Scriptural Principles of Man and Woman Roles

### Lesson 3

#### Objectives

- To review significant concepts from Lesson 1 and 2.
- To review God's direction to be transformed to God's will
- To contrast the scriptural and worldly views of "head," "helper," "authority," and "submission"
- To make the distinction between a principle and its application

#### I. REVIEWING SIGNIFICANT CONCEPTS

- A. God's **design principles** at the creation of human life (Genesis 1:26,27; 2:18,21-22  
I Corinthians 11:3,8-9)
- Made in God's image
  - Two biologically distinct sexes
  - Two biologically distinct sexes designed to be
    - interdependent
    - complementary
  - Established in **head** and **helper** roles
- B. As "co-heirs with Christ" (Romans 8:17; Galatians 3: 26-29) the head and helper have **equal status** before God.

#### II. TAKING DIRECTION

"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. <sup>2</sup> **Do not conform to the pattern of this world but be transformed** by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what **God's will** is—his good, pleasing and perfect will" (Romans 12:1,2).

What is our motivation to follow this direction?

What are we to be transformed **from** and what are we to be transformed **to**?

Concept/Topic	God's Will	Patterns of this world
<b>"head"</b> Matthew 20:26-28 Ephesians 5:25 Luke 22:27 Romans 5:17,19	Loving leader, embraces responsibility and accountability, characterized by sacrifice to benefit those he leads which proves how much he values others.	Motivated by power and prestige. Impressed with his position, entitled to special privileges. Sees some duties and people as beneath him
<b>"helper"</b> Mark 15:41 Luke 8:1- Proverbs 3:10-31	Finds fulfillment in being supportive, recognizes the wisdom in God's design. Gives counsel to leaders and offers her talents to benefit the mission	Perceives "helper" role as inferior and may be resentful. May believe that helper role undervalues her gifts and gaining equality may become missional.
<b>"authority"</b> I Timothy 2:11,12	"entrusted responsibility to make a binding decision for good of others" (pg. 13) spiritually sound judgment,	Holding power over others. Input from those under authority is optional or marginal. Ability to exercise will against the will of the governed.
<b>"submission"</b> Ephesians 5:21,22	willingly follows, recognizes that submission to leaders (head) benefits the whole body. Knows that her status as "co-heirs with Christ" (Ro. 8:16,17) makes her equal to man in God's sight.	Sees submission as a sign of inequality. Characterizes submission as an oppressor/oppressed relationship. Emphasizes independence over God's interdependent, complementary design.

### III. PRINCIPLE AND APPLICATION

A **principle** is a fundamental truth or proposition that serves as the foundation of a system of belief.

An **application** refers to the act of putting a principle into practice. Applications often answer the question: What does that look like?

PRINCIPLES	APPLICATIONS
are abstract and universal	are concrete and context specific
remain constant	can vary based on circumstances and individual needs
guide decision-making and behavior	practical steps that align with or carry out the principle

#### Examples of Biblical principles

"...Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another" (John 13:34,35).

"But everything should be done decently and in order" (I Cor. 14:40).

"Now I want you to realize that the head of every man is Christ, and the head of the woman is man, and the head of Christ is God (I Cor. 11:3).