

ONE | ANOTHER

Submit To One Another | Discussion Notes

This week we are looking at the command to 'submit to one another'.

- What is your gut reaction when we talk about 'submitting' to others?
- Why do we find the idea of submission difficult?
- Where do you feel at the moment that you are being challenged to submit? Or where are you finding submission particularly difficult?

In Ephesians 5, Paul encourages us to "Submit to one another out of reverence for Christ." In our context, that looks like 3 level of increasing challenge: submitting to community, to leadership and to mentoring.

Philip shared two keys for submission: 1. We submit to Christ first and everything else follows and 2. submission is always choice, not something we have to do.

- How do these keys help how you think about submission?

1. Submit to Community

Philip explained that our culture is one of 'expressive individualism' where the highest value in our society is to be true to ourselves and to express our own sense of individual identity.

- How can this make submitting to community challenging?
- Read Philippians 2:3-4. What do you think the Bible tells us about submitting to one another, what does that look like in practice and how does it differ from the message of the culture around us?
- What does submitting to one another in our Hub environment look like for you? Philip suggested that for some of us it might be committing to a social even if it's not our cup of tea, for others of us it might be talking less to hear what others have to say

2. Submit to Leadership

- What does submitting to leadership look like and why is it so hard for some of us?
- Read 1 Corinthians 16:15-16: here Paul tells us that we should only submit to leaders who serve those they lead. How can we make sure we are submitting to leaders who serve?
- Have you had any experiences of unhealthy, controlling leadership?
- Philip said that the greater the level of leadership you carry, the more submitted and servant hearted you need to be. How do we see that playing out in our context?

3. Submit to Mentoring

Philip explained that for some of us submitting to mentoring can be a challenge; the idea that we are accountable to someone else and even trust them as we make life decisions can be difficult.

- Have you experience submitting to a mentor? If so, what was that like? What were the challenges or benefits of doing so?

Go around and ask the group which of these three areas do they feel challenged to submit more and why. Then break into smaller groups to pray for help to do this. You may also want to pray for those who have had a bad experience with submitting to others in the past.