



→ **O What a Tangled Web, Lesson 3** - 1 Corinthians 11:2-16

Read 1 Corinthians 11:2-16. *This is a difficult passage that many have struggled with over the past 2000 years. Questions that many have wrestled with include -- Is the passage to be taken literally for all time? Or was this a situation that was particular for this time and place? Or is the principle timeless, but the application varied based on culture?*

Describe the best manager you've ever had. What were their characteristics? How did you respond to their leadership?

Describe a recent experience when you needed to be willing to submit to someone. Did you submit willingly? Did you resist? Why do you think you were willing or resistant?

Does it surprise you to know that Jesus fully submits to His heavenly Father? Jesus is co-equal with God the Father, yet He chooses to fully submit to at the same time. How does that work?

What is the issue Paul describes in verses 2-16? What was the problem? Was this a problem for the whole church or just a few?

This seems to fall under a church tradition that is Biblical based, but not Biblically mandated. What is the difference between the two?

Are there other church traditions that we practice today that would fall under this kind of category? How about Christmas?

Do you think Paul is speaking about something to place on the head or just the length of hair? Or does it matter?

What is the principle that Paul is saying is important that is illustrated with either a veil or the length of hair?

Why is submission difficult for most of us?

Does it help you understand submission knowing Jesus submits to His father?

How does Ephesians 5:22 -33 impact your ability to submit?

How does submission fit with respect?

Read 1 Corinthians 11:17 – 34

What is the issue Paul addresses in this passage?

How are they showing disrespect to each other?

What is happening as a result? Does that surprise you?

How should we prepare ourselves for the Lord's Table/Communion?

What are ways we might bring judgment on ourselves at the table?

Communion

Close your time by having communion together if you feel comfortable leading. Communion is meant to be observed over and over in the life of a Christian. This is a holy time of worship when we corporately come together as one body to remember and celebrate what Christ did for us. We should not take this time lightly or come to communion with unconfessed sin in our life. A time of personal examination should proceed communion.

Communion causes us to remember all that Christ did for us. We take time to examine ourselves. We proclaim his death until he comes, and we show our collective participation in the body of Christ. The bread represents Christ's body that was broken for you. The cup represents Christ's blood which was shed for you. As a small group, take time to observe communion together.



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