

God's beauty secret for women



In the same way, you wives, be submissive to your own husbands so that even if any of them are disobedient to the word, they may be won without a word by the behavior of their wives, as they observe your chaste and respectful behavior. Your adornment must not be merely external—braiding the hair, and wearing gold jewelry, or putting on dresses; but let it be the hidden person of the heart, with the imperishable quality of a gentle and quiet spirit, which is precious in the sight of God. For in this way in former times the holy women also, who hoped in God, used to adorn themselves, being submissive to their own husbands; just as Sarah obeyed Abraham, calling him lord, and you have become her children if you do what is right without being frightened by any fear. You husbands in the same way, live with your wives in an understanding way, as with someone weaker, since she is a woman; and show her honor as a fellow heir of the grace of life, so that your prayers will not be hindered. 1 Peter 3:1-7



In this passage, a wife is instructed to be submissive even if her husband is disobedient to the Word! She is to be submissive to her husband in *everything!*



• But as the church is subject to Christ, so also the wives ought to be to their husbands in everything. Ephesians 5:24

The apostle Paul is not saying that a wife must obey when her husband tells her to do something sinful - in that case there is a higher authority she must obey. But that aside, God's word does say that wives ought to be subject to their husbands in *everything*. The test of whether we are submitted to our authority is evidenced most clearly when we obey *even when we disagree*. When you or your friends begin to determine when it is appropriate for you to submit and when it is not appropriate to submit based on how your husband treats you, you have thrown God out of your marriage and it will scar your beauty! God promises you that He will take care of you, but you've got to trust God enough to obey Him by submitting to your husband in everything and not take matters onto your own hands. God is able to deal with your husband. Notice what Peter says is the result of a husband's disobedience in this area - his prayers will not be answered! (verse 7) Don't worry, God will deal with him if he is not treating you right so submit to your husband and let God be the judge. It is well worth noting that the illustration/example given is that of Sarah. She learned this beauty secret (1

Peter 3:3-5) with the help of her maid, Hagar. Yes, Hagar gave Sarah a vivid lesson in submission. Hagar felt about the way you've felt and did about the same things you would or did do.



Abram said to Sarai, "Behold, your maid is in your power; do to her what is good in your sight." So Sarai treated her harshly, and she fled from her presence. Now the angel of the LORD found her by a spring of water in the wilderness, by the spring on the way to Shur. He said, "Hagar, Sarai's maid, where have you come from and where are you going?" And she said, "I am fleeing from the presence of my mistress Sarai." Then the angel of the LORD said to her, "Return to your mistress, and submit yourself to her authority." Moreover, the angel of the LORD said to her, "I will greatly multiply your descendants so that they will be too many to count." Genesis 16:6-10



Sarah mistreated Hagar terribly and Hagar ran away. She wasn't going to take any more of that! She deserved better! So she took matters into her own hands... and ended up in the wilderness. The

Lord's angel saw her there and asked "why are you way out here in the wilderness?" Hagar gave him some good reasons! Then the Lord's angel said an unbelievable thing. **"Return to your mistress, and submit yourself to her authority."** The note on "submit" in the NET Bible says *The imperative* **וְהִתְעַנֵּי** (*vjhit'anni*) *is the Hitpael of* **עָנָה** (*'anah*, here translated "submit"), *the same word used for Sarai's harsh treatment of her. Hagar is instructed not only to submit to Sarai's authority, but to whatever mistreatment that involves. God calls for Hagar to humble herself.* Then He gave her a wonderful promise. He promised that her descendents would be multiplied if she would do what he said. She must have... look at all the Arab countries today!!

Now back to Sarah... You are a woman so you can just imagine how Sarah felt when Hagar ran away. But can you imagine Sarah's surprise, shock, (and horror) when she came back?! What did Hagar have to endure at the hand of Sarah when she returned? ...until... Sarah noticed that Hagar was submitting to her! The Bible does not say, but I can just imagine that Sarah's shock at Hagar's return was not half as great as her shock at Hagar's change of heart and her submissive response. I have a feeling that it wasn't long until things went much better - on both sides! Don't you?

So Sarah received an important lesson on submission from her lowly maid, Hagar. Sarah learned that lesson and she is

commended in the Word of God. That's why Sarah could call Abraham "lord!" Now here is your promise straight from God Himself. Verse 9 of 1 Peter 3. **"You become her children if you do what is right without being frightened by any fear."**

Don't be afraid. Apply God's beauty secret. God will take care of you. Yes, your husband needs to submit to God, too! But don't keep your eyes on him, keep your eyes on **HIM** so that your husband will be "won" and you will be beautiful - *precious in the sight of God!*



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The best kept Beauty Secret!



*The angel speaks to Hagar in the wilderness
(Genesis 16)*

Did you know that God has a beauty secret for ladies? He does! It's found in the pages of His Word. It is not easy to apply but it is accessible to every woman who is willing to trust God that it works. What is it? Keep reading!