

SUBMISSION = Having the courage to give up my rights to meet another's needs.

**Three basic ways to live life**

My Way  
(Selfish)

God's Way  
(Unselfish/Submissive)

Other's Way  
(Subjected)

**I. WHY SHOULD I BE UNSELFISH?**

1. Selfishness is the source of conflict.

*"Do you know where your fights and arguments come from? They come from the selfish desires that war with you."* James 4:1 (NCV)

2. Unselfishness is the secret to change.

*"...so that, if any of them do not believe the word, they may be won over without words by the behavior of their wives,"* I Peter 3:1 (NIV)

3. Selfishness short circuits prayer.

*"Do this so that nothing will stop your prayers."* I Pet. 3:7 (NCV)

**II. HOW CAN I BE UNSELFISH?**

1. Understanding: Learn to Consider Other's Needs

*"In the same way, you husbands should live with your wives in an understanding way..."* I Pet. 3:7 (NCV)

*"Let everyone see that you are unselfish and considerate in all you do."* Phil. 4:5 (TLB)

2. Respect: Honouring Other People's Value.

*"But show them respect, because God gives them the same blessing he gives you - the grace that gives true life."* I Pet. 3:7 (NCV)

*"When you do things, do not let selfishness or pride be your guide. Instead, be humble and give more honour to others than to yourselves."* Phil. 2:3 (NCV)

3. Sacrifice: Being Willing To Act On Another's Behalf

*"Let us stop just saying we love people; let us really love them, and show it by our actions."* I John 3:18 (TLB)

To be unselfish you must...

**LET GO OF YOUR FEAR**

*"We need have no fear of someone who loves us perfectly; his perfect love for us eliminates all dread of what he might do to us."* I John 4:18 (TLB)

*"Now you can have real love for everyone because your souls have been cleansed from selfishness and hatred when you trusted Christ to save you; so see to it that you really do love each other warmly, with all your hearts."* I Pet. 1:22 (TLB)

**Prayer:**

Jesus Christ, I pray that Your attitude of unselfishness would be expressed in my relationship with \_\_\_\_\_. Thank you for Your unselfish love for me! I accept Your love for me and pray that you would help me to learn to live Your way in my relationships. Amen