Three opening observations about submission:
1. Impossible without the Holy Spirit (18b-21)
2. It generally means “to be under in rank,” or “to be under authority.”
3. When discussing mutual submission, it means “put others will and needs ahead of your own.”

**Dance Partner #1: The Wife (vv. 22-24)**
Submission is NOT:

When NOT to submit:

Submission is:

Application for women:
1. Don’t idolize your husband.
2. Don’t play the Holy Spirit in your husband’s life.
3. Do look for ways to promote the benefit of your husband
   (Read Proverbs 31:10-31 every morning).

**Dance Partner #2: The Husband (vv. 25-31)**
1. Sacrificial (v. 25)
2. Sanctifying (vv. 26-27)
3. Satisfying (vv. 28-31)

Application for men:
1. Care for your wife’s soul.
2. Make her well-being of primary importance.
3. Listen without interrupting (hear her heart) or trying to fix her (Proverbs 18:13).
The Dance: Love and Respect (v. 33)

Our Application:
1. Stop the crazy cycle.

2. Learn how to resolve conflict.

3. Get help!

3. Men: LEAD!

5. Single women: Look for a man you can respect.

From Maxwell Leadership Bible (p. 1442):

Contrary to what many teach, leadership in the home is not about power or control. Paul asks for mutual submission (Eph. 5:21) and calls husbands to be Christ-figures (5:23-25). And how did Christ lead the church? He provided, taught, wept, healed, and died on a cross. Spiritual leadership means giving up yourself for someone else (5:25). It means assuming responsibility for the health and development of your relationships.

Evaluate your home leadership in each of the following categories:

1. Initiative – Do I give direction and take responsibility for my primary relationships?

2. Intimacy – Do I experience intimacy with God and others through open conversation?

3. Influence – Do I exercise biblical influence by encouraging and developing others?

4. Integrity – Do I lead an honest life, unashamed of who I am when no one is looking?

5. Identity – Am I secure in who I am in Christ? Or am I defensive?

6. Inner Character – Do I exhibit the fruit of the Spirit in my life, including self-discipline?