

**God's Way is Willing to Yield**

Isaiah 61:1-2 Galatians 5:1, 13-14 Matthew 5:5

1. What is a paradox?
2. Discovering God's \_\_\_\_\_ to experience what we want \_\_\_\_\_ in relationships
  - Remembering what \_\_\_\_\_ in relationships helps me to navigate the complexities in my relationships.
3. **The wisdom that comes from heaven (God's Way) is first of all pure; then peace-loving, considerate, **submissive** (eupeites), full of mercy and good fruit, impartial and sincere. James 3:17**
  - God's way is \_\_\_\_\_.
  - What is your reaction to God's way in relationships being submissive?
    - A continuum of translations for the Greek word *eupeites*:  
Friendly – Approachable – Considerate – Sensible – Open to reason – Easy to entreat – Obedient – Compliant – Willing to yield – Submissive  
Where do you draw the line on this continuum between where you are comfortable and not comfortable in relationships?
  - Two principles when interpreting the Bible:
    - 1) Use \_\_\_\_\_ to interpret the Bible.
    - 2) What a Bible passage actually says and means is more important to understand than what the passage "means to me" or my comfort with what the passage actually says and means.
4. Bible passages that support translating *eupeites* towards the *submissive* end of the continuum of translations:
  - Jesus taught, "Blessed are the \_\_\_\_\_, for they will inherit the earth." Matthew 5:5
  - Jesus taught, "Take my \_\_\_\_\_ upon you, and learn from me; for \_\_\_\_\_ and humble in heart." Matthew 11:29

- Matthew chose this quote from the Old Testament prophet Zechariah to describe Jesus entering Jerusalem on Palm Sunday:  
See, your king comes to you, \_\_\_\_\_ and riding on a donkey.  
Matthew 21:5
  - Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves, not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others. Philippians 2:3-4  
In a simple word this means to \_\_\_\_\_.
  - Instruction to husbands and wives: \_\_\_\_\_ **to one another** out of reverence for Christ. Ephesians 5:21
  - You were called to freedom, brothers and sisters; only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for self-indulgence, **but through love become \_\_\_\_\_ to one another.** Galatians 5:13
  - "A Christian is a \_\_\_\_\_, subject to none. **A Christian is a perfectly dutiful servant of all, subject of all.**"  
- Martin Luther
  - God's way in relationships is \_\_\_\_\_.
5. **It. Is. Not. God's. Will. For. You. To. Submit. To. Abuse.**
  6. To get what I want most in relationships, \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_.
  7. **Seven Steps To Break Free From Abuse.**
    - 1) Don't keep it a secret. Tell someone safe who can help.
    - 2) Name the abuse. Sexual. Physical. Emotional.  
Forms of emotional abuse: aggravation, intimidation, denigration, humiliation, manipulation, domination, defamation, condemnation.
    - 3) Don't minimize or rationalize the abuse. Abuse is never right.
    - 4) Help abuse victims to find a safe place if necessary.
    - 5) Don't confront the abuser by yourself. Get help.
    - 6) Begin the healing process. Seek professional therapy.
    - 7) Let God settle the score. Do not take revenge.
  8. Next Steps: