

black-and-blue hardly constitutes Christian love. First Peter tells husbands to live with their wives considerately. And the Bible makes it clear that the church has no business closing its eyes to violent men. In 1 Timothy 3:3, the church is told that when it comes to choosing leaders, they must find men who are "not violent but gentle," sober, and temperate.

The amount of domestic abuse .. is horrifying, and the church ought to be doing something about it. But this is one mission field where the church is largely missing in action. And sometimes pastors, albeit with good intentions, do more harm than good.

Nearly 6,000 pastors were asked how they would counsel women who came to them for help with domestic violence. Twenty-six percent would counsel them the same way Marleen's pastor did: to continue to "submit" to her husband, no matter what. Twenty-five percent told wives the abuse was their own fault--for failing to submit in the first place. Astonishingly, 50 percent said women should be willing to "tolerate some level of violence" because it is better than divorce.

Advice like this, ..., often puts women "in grave danger"--and in some cases, can be a death warrant."

Wayne's Comment: If you know of any situations of domestic violence please report it. If you are suffering domestic abuse you do NOT have to stay in a dangerous situation. Please get out of there. We would be glad to do what we can to help to secure your safety.



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Domestic Violence

One article says, "A woman I'll call "Marleen" went to her pastor for help. "My husband is abusing me," she told him. "Last week he knocked me down and kicked me. He broke one of my ribs."

Marleen's pastor was sympathetic. He prayed with Marleen--and then he sent her home. "Try to be more submissive," he advised. "After all, your husband is your spiritual head."

Two weeks later, Marleen was dead--killed by an abusive husband. Her church could not believe it. Marleen's husband was a Sunday school teacher and a deacon. How could he have done such a thing?

Tragically, studies reveal that .. about 25 percent of Christian homes witness abuse of some kind.

.. "Spouse abuse shocks us," ... "We just cannot believe that a church .. member



goes home after worship . . . and beats his wife." Tragically, however, ..., some of these men justify their violence "by citing biblical passages."

Well, obviously they're misinterpreting Scripture. In Ephesians 5:25, husbands are told to love their wives as Christ loved the church; beating wives



Our Home

Trusting God at Home

When faced with a situation where we have to Biblically submit we are faced with three main choices :

1. I can _____ to submit,
Ephesians 5:22, 24

(Romans 13:1) "Let every soul be subject to the governing authorities."

(Acts 5:29) "... We ought to obey God rather than men."

(Colossians 3:22) "Bondservants, obey in all things your masters according to the flesh, not with eyeservice, as men-pleasers, but in sincerity of heart, fearing God."

(Acts 5:41) "So they departed from the presence of the council, rejoicing that they were counted worthy to suffer shame for His name."

(Hebrews 13:17) "Obey those who rule over you, and be submissive, for they watch out for your souls, as those who must give account. Let them do so with joy and not with grief, for that would be unprofitable for you."

(Colossians 3:20) "Children, obey your parents in all things, for this is well pleasing to the Lord."



(Colossians 3:18) "Wives, submit to your own husbands, as is fitting in the Lord."

(Psalms 103:19) "The LORD has established His throne in heaven, And His kingdom rules over all."

(Proverbs 21:1) "The king's heart is in the hand of the LORD, Like the rivers of water; He turns it wherever He wishes."

(Ezra 6:22) "And they kept the Feast of Unleavened Bread seven days with joy; for the LORD made them joyful, and turned the heart of the king of Assyria toward them, to strengthen their hands in the work of the house



of God, the God of Israel."



2. I can submit for _____

_____, 1 Peter 2:13-14, 18, 3:1, 6
(Proverbs 3:5-6) "Trust in the LORD with all your heart, And lean not on your own understanding; {6} In all your ways acknowledge Him, And He shall direct your paths."



3. I can submit while _____, 1 Peter 3:5

(Isaiah 26:3-4) "You will keep him in perfect peace, Whose mind is stayed on You, Because he trusts in You. {4} Trust in the LORD forever, For in YAH, the LORD, is everlasting strength."

(Isaiah 30:15) "For thus says the Lord GOD, the Holy One of Israel: "In returning and rest you shall be saved; In quietness and confidence shall be your strength." ...

