



By Mrs. Bessie Wilbon

INTRODUCTION

Today the land of Israel is surrounded by countries where the prevailing religion is called Islam. The name means submission. Reading the news from the region, we may doubt that the people are living up to the name. A Muslim might explain, however, that Islam means submission to God, not man. It does not forbid war, revolution, or terrorism.

Christians also submit to God first of all. Ordinarily, however, a Christian submits to his government, too, (Romans 12:1-7). Besides, he submits to fellowmen who are not necessarily in government. He follows rules that transcend the law. He wants to help rather than to dominate. He considers others better than himself. He contributes his cloak along with his coat; he volunteers to go a second mile.

However, Christian submission does not abolish authority. The king must rule, even if he is Christian. The Christian manager must manage; the Christian foreman directs the workers; the Christian teacher does not submit to unruly pupils. In the church, capable men are chosen to be overseers. In the King James Version of the Bible they are referred to as bishops or elders. The rest of us are urged to submit to them, (Hebrews 13:17).

LESSON BACKGROUND

The fifth chapter of Ephesians calls us to be "followers of God, as dear children." We need to be wise, and be "filled with the Spirit." As Spirit-filled Christians, we speak to each other in song, we sing to the Lord, we give thanks to God, and we submit one to another.

"Submit yourselves one to another in the fear of God," (V. 21). This is a general guideline for Christian living. Even a person in a position of authority ought to follow it. He should not be tyrannical, but conciliatory, reasonable, helpful. The one under authority, of course, should not be disobedient, or rebellious. He should be subordinate, cooperative, and supportive. Whatever his position, each person should conduct himself humbly in the fear of God. God is far above us all. Reverence for Him keeps us humble and, therefore, considerate and thoughtful of others.

Children, obey your parents in the Lord: for this is right. Honor thy father and mother; which is the first commandment with promise. And, ye fathers, provoke not your children to wrath: but bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord," (Vv. 1-4).

People are not born with mature judgment. They attain it gradually through years of experience. In their growing years, children desperately need the guidance of older people, and they ought to accept it gladly and gratefully.

Perhaps adults do not obey their parents as little children do. But obedience is not the only way of honoring and there is no end to the time to honor parents. Their grown sons and daughters keep in touch with them, treat them with respect, listen to their opinions, accede to their wishes when they can. Honor to parents include financial support if it is needed. Honor thy father and mother is fifth among the Ten Commandments, (Exodus 20:1-17), but it is the first one with a specific promise attached.

Disobedient children usually do not realize how far-reaching the consequences of their disobedience can be. In defiance of his parents, a ten year old takes up smoking. A teenage rebel illegally gets a supply of booze and dies in a flaming crash on the highway. And countless people who disregard the authority of parents and God will also disregard the rules of health. Perhaps more than half the people in an advanced, modern nation will shorten their lives by overeating, overwork, or some other excess.

There are many ways to provoke a child, or to exasperate him. We can frustrate him by unreasonable demands, expecting all A's on his or her report card when we ought to praise him for a B. We can wound him by sarcastic comments when he strikes out in a ball game, or makes a blunder in his piano recital.

We can humiliate him or her before their friends by yelling commands most impolitely; then we cut him down when he follows our example and yells at someone else. We can confuse him or her with inconsistent rules and discipline, punishing a slight infraction today and ignoring a large one tomorrow. We can rob him or her of ambition by ridiculing dreams and denying his desires.

A family is shattered when each member is determined to have his own way, but harmony prevails when each member prefers to let the others have their own way. Of course, this harmony needs the cooperation of every member of the family. If just one keeps his passionate devotion to his own way while all the rest are willing to submit, then the rest are down trodden and the domineering member becomes an undisciplined tyrant.

It is not easy to give in, to submit; and to keep on submitting is harder still. Perhaps it is hardest of all for the head of the family. He not only must give in, but he must at the same time, maintain his authority.

Women Constitute 42.5 Percent Of County's Work Force!

By Teresa Simmons
Post Managing Editor

A typical day for Sandra Hester includes getting her little girls, Monica 7, and Dara, 4, ready for school and nursery; perhaps preparing your packages for her business, Hester's Tour Guide Service of Charlotte; driving off for work at the Douglas International Airport; and then sitting in her seat just in time for a business or advertising class.

Her answering machine at home contains an inquiry about her tour guide business as well as two orders for the Carta Cosmetics she sells. And, somehow, she finds time for one of her favorite hobbies - league bowling.

Mrs. Hester is one of 100,170 females in Mecklenburg County who work - that means that 42.5 percent of our county's workforce is women. (Statistics from the Unemployment Office in Charlotte.)

How do women juggle work and all the other extra-curricular activities with taking care of home? Mrs. Hester's answer is using time wisely.

"It is all in how you can maneuver your work around other occurrences in your life," she stated. She didn't need to read about the North Carolina Governor's Council on Physical Fitness and Health Summary that proper time management leads to a healthier life and more productive time of the 168 hours per week available. For her experience was the best teacher.

"Using time wisely is very important. Time is valuable," Mrs. Hester comments. "I have to use every ounce I can get."

She also gives credit to God and to her husband, Donald Hester. "It's hard dividing time between job, family, school and business. I spend as much time on the weekends with my family as possible. Saturday is

Bethlehem Center

To Celebrate

Awareness Week

The Bethlehem Center Head Start Program will celebrate Head Start Awareness Week in Charlotte with a Balloon Launch on Friday, October 26, between 1-2 p.m.

As part of the festivities, the Head Start children will have the opportunity to see the balloons filled with helium and then each child will be given a "Head Start" balloon to release.

Head Start is now serving 400 preschool children in nine locations throughout the city including: the City of Charlotte's Alexander Street and Greenville Neighborhood Centers; Christ the King Center; Belvedere Homes Center; Spencer Memorial United Methodist Church - Double Oaks Community Service Center; and the three elementary schools - Park Road, Oaklawn and Marie G. Davis. The Greenville, Double Oaks and Oaklawn Centers will hold a joint Balloon Launch on the Greenville Center playground and the other Head Start Centers will launch the balloons on their playgrounds or at nearby parks.

The Head Start Program is funded by the United States Department of Health and Human Services and is now in its 19th year of providing a comprehensive child development program designed to meet the needs of disadvantaged pre-schoolers.

For additional information, contact Ms. Ruby Houston, Head Start Director, at 333-0203 or 375-1417.

Citizens Bank

Named Hunt

Regional Supervisor

C. William Hunt Jr. has been named trust department regional supervisor for First Citizens Bank in Charlotte. He is a vice president and trust officer. He transfers from the Asheville office where he was manager of the regional trust office. Hunt has been with First Citizens since 1970 and has 14 years experience in personal trust administration and estate planning. He is a graduate of Furman University. Hunt has also attended the National Trust School at Northwestern University and the Southeastern Trust School at Campbell University.



Mrs. Sandra Hester
...One of 100,170 working females

"our day." If there are any problems during the week my husband attends to them. If it wasn't for him I couldn't do it."

Another comforting thought from Mrs. Hester is that she doesn't intend to keep her life at such a hectic pace forever. "Charlotte is steadily growing. In a few years I believe the city will become a convention center." Having a tour guide business will not only be profitable, but one Mrs. Hester will continue to enjoy because there are so many opportunities to meet people.

"I like people and through my business I meet a lot of people and I enjoy my work," she commented. The business began in January, 1984. "My advice to anyone going into business," Mrs. Hester continued, "is to be prepared financially; be prepared to work hard; and never have too much pride to ask for help."

Mrs. Hester also has a definite plan to her life. "Working part-time at the airport is helping me to sustain the business. I go to school at night to study sales and advertising so that I can run my business more professionally."

She has also completed her Biology degree from North Carolina Central University.

But changing from biology to

owning a business is a decision Mrs. Hester does not regret. "I've come a long way and I've learned a lot. The doors that were once closed are now opening up to me. I'm always busy and I always have something to do or read."

There are some women who never

fit into a certain role. There are others who, after years of being "someone to give your dirty laundry to," have stepped boldly to face a new challenge in life and in the business world.

The nation is taking notice. This week, for example, has been proclaimed by Mayor Harvey Gantt as Charlotte's "Business Women's Week" honoring 47 million working women in America.

There are numerous books geared to the working woman: "Re-Entering: Successful Back-to-work Strategies for Women Seeking a Fresh Start," by Eleanor Berman features several women who have re-entered the work force. The book also provides a wealth of factual information on the newest trends in today's job market. Another book, "It's Women's Work Too" by Walter Oleksy reveals untraditional jobs that in the past decade have become more and more common and open for women.

If you think women like Mrs. Hester lead fulfilling lives you are probably right. Ironically, she says she has a certain "freedom" and independence as a working woman.

If you think that everything goes smoothly all the time, think again. "There are times that I have come home bushed and so tired that all I wanted to do was go to bed. But then my little one will say she needs some lotion for her back. And there I'll go, out the door to the nearest store," Mrs. Hester stated.

Juggling family and work is becoming the norm for most women today, but it's still nice to know that little things like lotion for a little girl's back is still part of being a working woman.

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