UNSELFISH LIVING

I. Introduction:

Definition of SUBMISSION: Submission is: <u>having</u> the courage to give up my rights to meet another <u>person's needs</u>.

II. Why Should I Be Unselfish?

Peter 3:7

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| A. Be unselfish because selfishness is the source of |
| "Do you know where your fights and arguments come from? They come from the <u>selfish</u> desires that war within you." James 4:1 |
| B. Because unselfishness is the secret to |
| [1] "Wives, in the same way be submissive to your husbands 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 |
| C. Selfishness short circuits |
| [7] "Husbands, in the same way be considerate as you live with your wives, and treat them with respect as the weaker partner and as heirs with you of the gracious gift of life, so that nothing will hinder your prayers." |

POINTS TO PONDER For Week of September 13th to 19th

Open It:

- 1. *What examples would you point to in our society to illustrate our obsession with outward appearance?
- 2. How have the roles of a husband and wife changed in the last 20 years?
- 3. What do you think is good and bad about the changes in male and female roles over the last 20 years?
- 4. What do you remember most vividly about your parents' relationship?

Explore It:

- 5. What is the challenge of being a wife? (3:1)
- 6. Why did Peter encourage wives to submit to their husbands? (3:1-2)
- 7. What qualities can a believing wife use to witness to an unbelieving husband? (3:1-2)
- 8. *What kinds of beauty can a woman have? (3:3-4)
- 9. *What is the disadvantage of a woman's outward beauty? (3:3-6)
- 10. *What is the advantage of a woman's inward beauty? (3:4-6)
- 11. How can a godly woman make herself beautiful? (3:5)
- 12. What example did Peter set forth for wives to follow? (3:6)

- 13. What is the challenge of being a husband? (3:7)
- 14. Why should husbands treat their wives with respect? (3:7)

Get It:

- 15. How would you reply to the challenge that Peter's instructions are outdated and don't apply in today's world?
- 16. How are the responsibilities of wives and husbands different?
- 17.*Why is it easier to be beautiful on the outside rather than on the inside?
- 18.*How can someone develop inner beauty as Peter described?
- 19. What does it mean to be submissive to another person? What does it not mean?
- 20. How are we heirs to the gracious gift of life?
- 21. How might the way a man treats his wife hinder his prayers?
- 22. Why is the husband-wife relationship so important?
- 23. How do you need to change the way you treat your spouse?
- 24. What are some steps every spouse can take to honor his or her partner?

Apply It:

- 25. *What specific steps will you take this week to develop your inner character?
- 26. What can you do today to become a better spouse?