

“Independent-Dependent Women”

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“A woman will do whatever she can to control a man, but if she succeeds, she won’t be happy.”
- Susan Yates

There are many unhappy women around us today. Women are pressured to become “independent,” to demand her rights, to make her way in society, and to conquer; yet you will find more women miserable than ever before—women that are depressed, struggling, discontented, and just downright mean. Pastor asked me to share with you my testimony on how I learned to become “dependently” independent.

God created us women to be under our authority or our head. Pastor has taught us that a woman cannot be right with God if she is not submitted under her head. There are three different ways a woman can be submitted to her head.

Girl—Father

Wife—Husband

Woman—Pastor

One of the most important things I learned in my own life is that my walk with God could not be where it is supposed to be without my being submitted under my authority who (at this time in my life) is my dad. Yes, a woman may need to be independent; but there is a way to honour God and be “dependently” independent.

Examples:

College – counsel about what to do after graduating

Coming home – telling dad what I was going to do instead of asking

Learn dependency

I asked Preacher and Bro. Alley what their thoughts were on what independent women struggle with the most. One thing that they both had mentioned is that independent women are not content with where God has them in their lives. They struggle with discontentment because they are not submitted to their proper authority or head. Bro. Alley mentioned several things in particular that he has noticed from women who are independent. These are things that I have had to work on in my own life.

- live their lives centered around “I”
- want to only fulfill their own agenda
- want the glory and recognition
- do not enjoy the shadows
- always busy talking instead of listening
- demanding own rights instead of thinking of others

- think they know it all
- want to be served instead of serving

Only when a woman submits to God by submitting to her head (authority) will she ever learn to be content. A woman can only be truly contented when she allows Jesus Christ to become her everything—her complete source of security, identity, and confidence.

“Lord, I give up all my own plans and purposes, all my own desires and hopes, and accept Thy will for my life. I give myself, my life, my all utterly to Thee to be Thine forever. Fill me and seal me with Thy Holy Spirit. Use me as Thou wilt, send me where Thou wilt, work out Thy whole will in my life at any cost, now and forever.”

-Elizabeth Elliot (Betty Scott Stam)

A woman with an independent attitude wanting to control her own life will never get to the point where she can surrender all to God. And a woman with an independent attitude wanting to control her own life will never surrender all to God unless she can learn to be dependent under her authority or her head where God has her right now.