**Planning to Grow**

**Decision Making and the Will of God**

**When You are Trying to Figure Out the Family**

**1 Peter 2:21-3:7** - *For you have been called for this purpose, since Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example for you to follow in His steps, 22 who committed no sin, nor was any deceit found in His mouth; 23 and while being reviled, He did not revile in return; while suffering, He uttered no threats, but kept entrusting Himself to Him who judges righteously; 24 and He Himself bore our sins in His body on the cross, so that we might die to sin and live to righteousness; for by His wounds you were healed. 25 For you were continually straying like sheep, but now you have returned to the Shepherd and Guardian of your souls.*

**3:1***In the same way, you wives, be submissive to your own husbands so that even if any of them are disobedient to the word, they may be won without a word by the behavior of their wives, 2 as they observe your chaste and respectful behavior. 3 Your adornment must not be merely external—braiding the hair, and wearing gold jewelry, or putting on dresses; 4 but let it be the hidden person of the heart, with the imperishable quality of a gentle and quiet spirit, which is precious in the sight of God. 5 For in this way in former times the holy women also, who hoped in God, used to adorn themselves, being submissive to their own husbands; 6 just as Sarah obeyed Abraham, calling him lord, and you have become her children if you do what is right without being frightened by any fear. 7 You husbands in the same way, live with your wives in an understanding way, as with someone weaker, since she is a woman; and show her honor as a fellow heir of the grace of life, so that your prayers will not be hindered.*

**I. Wives Are Called to Submit to their Husbands**

A. By abandoning your natural tools for gaining security

1. Abandon your dependence upon your words

2. Abandon your dependence upon your beauty

B. By Pursuing a Christ-Like Attitude

1. Pursue a Gentle and Quiet Spirit

2. Pursue Entrusting yourself to God

**II. Husbands are Called to Compassionately Care for their Wives**

A. By Living with Her according to Knowledge

B. By Understanding her weaker Position

C. By Treating her as a fellow Heir

D. By Recognizing the severe spiritual consequences