

I. INTRO/REVIEW

- A. Wheel's series
- Last week The Showroom

In the showroom things are generally shown in ideal conditions and in its best light. It's easy to get our eyes on the clean, new and shiny which leads to – I want it now! But when we let our emotions and desire lead us we can make bad choices and overspend which then leads to regrets and wanting a do-over.

- B. Every weekend there are couples that repeat vows and say “I do”.

Saying “I do” doesn't make you capable it makes you accountable.

II. TWO ARE BETTER

- A. The ideal

Ecclesiastes 4:9-12 (NKJV) ⁹Two are better than one, Because they have a good reward for their labor. ¹⁰For if they fall, one will lift up his companion. But woe to him who is alone when he falls, For he has no one to help him up. ¹¹Again, if two lie down together, they will keep warm; But how can one be warm alone? ¹²Though one may be overpowered by another, two can withstand him. And a threefold cord is not quickly broken

- B. Dually's two are better than one until they're out of alignment

Amos 3:3 (NKJV) Can two walk together, unless they are agreed?

- C. Marriage takes work

III. SUBMISSION AMONG EQUALS

- A. Context for what we're going to talk about –

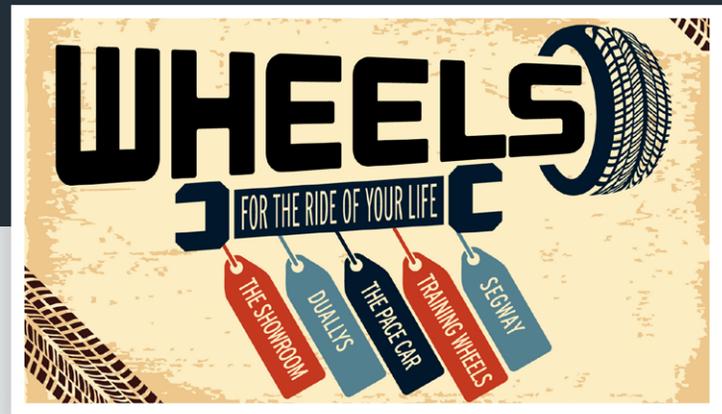
Ephesians 5:21 (NIV) Submit to one another out of reverence for Christ.

- Submission among equals

Galatians 5:13 (NKJV) ¹³For you, brethren, have been called to liberty; only do not use liberty as an opportunity for the flesh, but through love serve one another.

Ephesians 5:22 (NIV) Wives, submit yourselves to your own husbands (as you do to the Lord).

Ephesians 5:25 (NIV) ²⁵Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her



B. As we submit to each other we submit to God

Walking together and being in alignment requires something of us that doesn't really come naturally to us.

C. Alignment requires humility

IV. HUMILITY AND WISDOM

James 3:13 (NIV) ¹³ Who is wise and understanding among you? Let them show it by their good life, by deeds done in the humility that comes from wisdom.

If you're wise you'll show it in the humility that comes with wisdom

A. Humility comes FROM wisdom and leads to GREATER wisdom

James 3:14 (NIV) ¹⁴ But if you harbor bitter envy and selfish ambition in your hearts, do not boast about it or deny the truth.

James 3:15-16 (NIV) ¹⁵ Such "wisdom" does not come down from heaven but is earthly, unspiritual, demonic. ¹⁶ For where you have envy and selfish ambition, there you find disorder and every evil practice.

James 3:17 (NIV) ¹⁷ But the wisdom that comes from heaven is first of all pure; then peace-loving, considerate, submissive, full of mercy and good fruit, impartial and sincere.

V. THE POWER OF ALIGNMENT

Pray together, out loud, on a regular basis

A. Guidelines

- Short and awkward is better than long and flawless
- Pray WITH not AT each other
- Pray with and for your children

1 Peter 3:7 (NKJV) Husbands, likewise, dwell with them with understanding, giving honor to the wife, as to the weaker vessel, and as being heirs together of the grace of life, that your prayers may not be hindered.