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# Spiritual Christian Beliefs in Appalachian Culture



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# Spiritual Christian Beliefs in Appalachian Culture

- **Goal:** To teach an understanding of the Word of God. If a victim is strongly set on their beliefs, how you, as an advocate, can help them get out of an abusive situation by using the Word of God. This is not a preaching session and this is intended to help you get an understanding of victims who have their faith set as a Christian. This class is not a resource of any other faith that is known to man.  
**King James Version** used as a resource.



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## Spiritual Christian Beliefs in Appalachian Culture

### The Appalachian Region

- Approximately 205,000 Square Miles
- 13 States (From Mississippi to New York)
- 406 Counties
- Approximately 25 million residents



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## The Appalachian Region (Values)

- Familism (family assumes a position over an individual's interest) or strong sense of family
- Neighborliness or love of home place
- Individualism - Personalism or modesty
- Solidarity - Unity (as of a group or class) that produces or is based on community interests, objectives, and standards
- Patriotism and religion are common values



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## Spiritual Christian Beliefs in Appalachian Culture

- Questions:
  - 1. **Why do they stay in regards to faith?**
  - 2. **What are some of the stumbling blocks?**
  - 3. **Who stands in their way of leaving?**
  - 4. **What are some of the setbacks?**
  - 5. **Who can and are willing to help?**
  - 6. **What are their odds of success?**
  - 7. **How will their new life be after D.V.?**



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**(1)~ How Faith keeps them there (5 scriptures)**

• **Ephesians 5:22-24 (KJV)** – (22) Wives, submit yourselves unto your own husbands, as unto the Lord. (23) For the husband is the head of the wife, even as Christ is the head of the church: and He is the saviour of the body. (24) Therefore as the church is subject unto Christ, so let the wives be to their own husbands in every thing



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- **Colossians 3:18** – Wives, submit yourselves unto your own husbands, as it is fit in the Lord.
- **1 Timothy 2:11-14** – (11) Let the woman learn in silence with all subjection. (12) But I suffer not a woman to teach, nor to usurp authority over the man, but to be in silence. (13) For Adam was first formed, then Eve. (14) And Adam was not deceived, but the woman being deceived was in the transgression.



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- **Matthew 19:6,8-9** – (6) Wherefore they are no more twain, but one flesh. What therefore God hath joined together, let no man put asunder. (8) He saith unto them, Moses because of the hardness of your hearts suffered you to put away your wives: but from the beginning it was not so. (9) And I say unto you, whosoever shall put away his wife, except it be for fornication, and shall marry another, committeth adultery; and whoso marrieth her which is put away doth commit adultery.





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- **Hebrews 13:4** – Marriage is honorable in all, and the bed undefiled: but whoremongers and adulterers God will judge.
- \* So, there may be other scriptures that you can think about that may hinder the victim from leaving the family abuse. Be cautious on how you respond because you may only have one chance to answer.



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## (2) ~ **Stumbling blocks:**

Just the situation itself, presents a stumbling block for the victim because of society and what people expect out of us. A lot of times people of faith, have a family of faith, which presents a very difficult place for the victim to be, so here are some scriptures that support how stumbling blocks are there to hold us back.



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- **1 Corinthians 8:9-10** – (9) But take heed lest by any means this liberty of yours becomes a stumbling block to them that are weak. (10) For if any man see thee which hast knowledge sit at meat in the idol's temple, shall not the conscience of him which is weak be emboldened to eat those things which are offered to idols;



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- (Jesus advised how He is to be Crucified and how His beloved disciple hindered Him)
- **Matthew 16:22-23** – (22) Then Peter took him, and began to rebuke Him, saying, be it far from thee, Lord: this shall not be unto thee. (23) But He turned, and said unto Peter, get thee behind me, Satan: thou art an offence unto me: for thou savourest not the things that be of God, but those that be of men.



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### **(3) ~ Who is in their way of leaving:**

- 1. Family
- 2. Friends
- 3. Co-Workers
- 4. Church members
- 5. Husband/wife
- 6. Self
- 7. Word of God (not rightly dividing truth)



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## (4) ~ Some of the setbacks:

- 1. Financial (not able to afford it)
- 2. Fear (unknown and what companion will do)
- 3. Self-Worth (so beat down & controlled)
- 4. Shelter (where to lay their head down)
- 5. Kids (staying for the kids to have a mom/dad)
- 6. Strength ( so weak from abuse)
- 7. No Help (not aware of you-advocates)



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**(5) ~ Who can and are willing to help:**

- **Advocate** – (1) One who pleads the **cause** of another! (2) One who defends or maintains a **cause**! (3) One who supports or promotes the interests of a **cause**!
  
- **Synonyms** – Apostle, backer, booster, champion, friend, high priest, promoter, supporter, true believer, white knight!



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- (6) ~ What are the odds of success: (100%)
- Philippians 4:13 – I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me.

## Some quotes to think about

1. You want greatness stop asking for permission.
2. Trust because you are willing to accept the risk, not because it's safe or certain.
3. All our dreams can come true if we have the courage to pursue them. (Walt Disney)





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4. If you do what you always did, you will get what you always got.

- 100% success rate, if we put our minds to it and if the person of faith will truly trust in God without wavering.

**Upbraid – Criticize/reproach**

**James 1:5-8** – (5) If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally and **upbraideth** not; and it shall be given him.



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(6) But let him ask in faith, nothing wavering. For he that wavereth is like a wave of the sea driven with the wind and tossed. (7) For let not that man think that he shall receive any thing of the Lord. (8) A double minded man is unstable in all his ways.

~ Now that you have them believing and receiving here are the counter scriptures that holds them back and **life after Domestic Violence!**



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## (7) ~ How life will be after domestic violence:

- Just a reminder that these are counter scriptures to the believer, who have their faith in Jesus Christ and their house built on the Rock!
- **Ephesians 5:21,25,28,29** – (21) Submitting yourselves one to another in the fear of God. (25) Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave Himself for it; (28) So ought men to love their wives as



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their own bodies. He that loveth his wife loveth himself. (29) For no man ever yet hated his own flesh; but nourisheth and cherisheth it, even as the Lord the church.

(Counter scripture to the first scripture mention, which was Ephesians 5:22-24, about how the abusive spouse keeps them in the home, just like Satan, they use part of the bible and not all the bible. Only the parts that benefit them and their situation, leaving out truths)



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- **Ephesians 5:24** – Therefore as the church is subject unto Christ, so let the wives be to their own husbands in every thing. (**Reiterating this**)
- \* God is the most important thing in a believer's life, He **must** come first, and nothing can hinder that. I will show scripture on how we must separate ourselves from the unclean thing and we can then be sons and daughters of the most high God.



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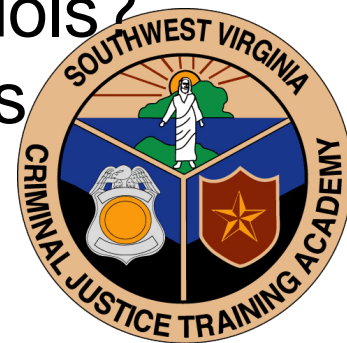
- **Luke 14:26-27** (**Jesus**) – (26) If any man come to me, and not hate his father, and mother, and wife, and children, and brethren, and sisters, yea, his own life also, he cannot be My disciple. (27) And whosoever doth not bear his cross, and come after me, cannot be My disciple.
- **Matthew 22:37** – Jesus said unto him, Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind.



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- **2 Corinthians 6:14-18** – Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers: for what fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness? And what communion hath light with darkness? (15) And what concord hath Christ with Belial? Or what part hath he that believeth with an **infidel**? (16) And what agreement hath the temple of God with idols? For ye are the temple of the living God; as God hath said, I will dwell in them, and



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Walk in them; and I will be their God, and they shall be My people. (17) Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you. (18) And will be a Father unto you, and ye shall be My sons and daughters, saith the Lord Almighty.

**Infidel** – (1) one who is not a Christian or who opposes Christianity. (2) One who acknowledges no religious belief.





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- **1 Timothy 5:8** – But if any provide not for his own, and specially for those of his own house, he hath denied the faith, and is worse than an **infidel**.
- \* A lot of times the abuser lives off of the abused person and will make excuses why they cannot work or they cannot find a job. The abused person will take up for the abuser and say they are trying, but if it be a male, he is supposed to provide for his family.



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**\*Continue on how a male should treat his wife.**

• **1 Corinthians 7:3** – Let the husband render unto the wife due **benevolence**: and likewise also the wife unto the husband.

**Benevolence** – to do good or act of kindness.

~ **Ephesians 2:10** – For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them.



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- ~ Response to woman should not usurp authority over the **God fearing** man or in teaching and to keeping silent. Adam not deceived, but Eve.
- ~ First a woman can be used of God, He used a burning bush and a donkey, I assure you, He can use a lady, who is a willing vessel.
- **Galatians 3:27-29** – (27) For as many of you as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ. (28) There is neither Jew nor Greek,



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there is neither bond nor free, there is neither male nor female: for ye are all one in Christ Jesus. (29) And if ye be Christ's, then are ye Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise.

~ You can see that I am trying to show that a woman is just as important as a man, but the scripture is there because there must be order in the home or church. Now lets talk about Adam and his excuse's, just as these abuse



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- **Genesis 3: 9-12** – (9) And the Lord God called unto Adam, and said unto him, Where art thou? (10) And he said, I heard thy voice in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked; and I hid myself. (11) And He said, Who told thee that thou wast naked? Hast thou eaten of the tree, whereof I commanded thee that thou shouldest not eat? (12) And the man said, The woman whom thou gavest to be with me, she gave me of the tree, and I did eat.



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- **1 Corinthians 15:22** – For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all be made alive.
- **Romans 5:17** – For if by one man's offence death reigned by one; much more they which receive abundance of grace and of the gift of righteousness shall reign in life by one, Jesus Christ. (Adam = flesh & Christ = Spirit)
  - ~ The man ultimately failed, not woman.



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~ In response to the scripture where you will always be in adultery, if you leave the marriage without fornication/adultery.

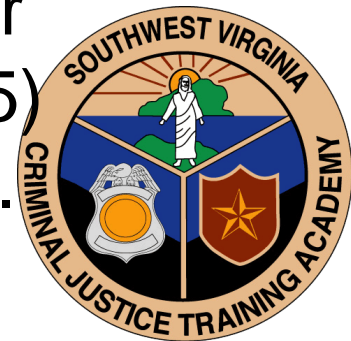
• **1 Corinthians 7:10-15** – (10) And unto the married I command, yet not I, but the Lord, let not the wife depart from her husband: (11) But and if she depart, let her remain unmarried, or be reconciled to her husband: and let not the husband put away his wife. (12) But to the



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rest speak I, not the Lord: if any brother hath a wife that believeth not, and she is pleased to dwell with him, let him not put her away. (13) And the woman which hath an husband that believeth not, and if he be pleased to dwell with her, let her not leave him. (14) For the unbelieving husband is sanctified by the wife, and the unbelieving wife is sanctified by the husband: else were your children unclean; but now are they holy. (15) But if the unbelieving depart, let him depart.





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A brother or sister is not under bondage in such cases: but God hath called us to peace.

~ So many times abused people stay because of their belief, but I can tell you God has called us to peace and if they stay unmarried, either the spouse will change their ways or they will commit adultery. If they commit adultery, the marriage bond is broken, the abused must trust God.



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- ~ **Peace – 7 important peace scriptures:**
- **2 Thessalonians 3:16** – Now the Lord of peace Himself give you peace always by **all** means. The Lord be with you **all**.
- **John 16:33** – These things I have spoken unto you, that in Me ye **might** have peace. In the world ye shall have tribulation: but be of good cheer, I have overcome the world.



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- **Isaiah 26:3** – Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace, whose **mind** is stayed on thee: because he trusteth in thee. (not spirit of fear/sound mind)
- **1 Peter 5:7** – Casting all your care upon Him; for He careth for you.
- **1 Peter 3:11** – Let him eschew evil, and do good; let him seek peace, and ensue it.



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- **Romans 15:13** – Now the God of hope fill you with **all** joy and peace in believing, that ye may abound in hope, through the power of the Holy Ghost.
- **Hebrews 12:14** – Follow peace with **all** men, and holiness, without which no man shall see the Lord:



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~ In closing, please remind them of the fruits of the Spirit, which there is no Law. Also His (Jesus) burden is light.

• **Galatians 5:22-23** – (22) But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, (23) Meekness, temperance: against such there is no law.



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1. **Love** – Unselfish loyal and benevolent concern for the good of another.
2. **Joy** – A state of happiness. A source or cause of delight.
3. **Peace** – A state of tranquility or quiet. A state of security. Harmony in personal relations.
4. **Longsuffering** – Patiently enduring lasting offense or hardship.



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5. **Gentleness** – The quality or state of being gentle; mildness of manners or dispositions.
6. **Goodness** – The quality/state of being good.
7. **Faith** – Firm belief in something for which there is no proof. (do they show faith in any situation)
8. **Meekness** – The quality or state of being meek: a mild, moderate, humble, or submissive quality.



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**9. Temperance** – Moderation in action, thought, or feeling. Moderation in or abstinence from the use of alcoholic beverages.

~ These are all qualities of the Spirit, do the abusers show any of these? We must show the victims truth and help the ones of faith, who mean well, but are held back from lies of the enemy.

• **Matthew 11:30** – (**Jesus speaking**) For My yoke is easy, and My burden is light.





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