

## The Powerful Testimony of Inner Beauty

### 1 Peter 2:1-7

#### *Cultural challenges for Marriage*

1. Digital distractions
2. Long work hours or multiple jobs
3. A loss of life-long commitment
4. Carrying excess baggage
5. Misunderstanding and experience of love

#### 1. The Call to Submit (v. 1)

#### 2. Strategy: Win without Words

- a. Watch out for Outward Appearance
- b. Dangers to Avoid
  - Tempting Others (Matthew 5:28-29)
  - Diverting others' focus to ourselves rather than to God
  - Letting the flesh creep in rather than letting the Spirit shine forth.
  - Masking deeper problems
  - Lead to unhealthy comparisons

#### 3. What Matters Most: True Beauty (v. 4)

1 Timothy 2:9–10

- a. Purity (v. 2)
- b. Respect (vv. 2, 7): a deep respect for the other person.  
Galatians 3:28; Ephesians 5:25
- c. Gentle and quiet spirit (v. 4)

#### 4. The Goal: To Win Our Spouse to the Lord (vv. 1, 7)

Mark 10:7-9; Ecclesiastes 9:9

Jesus is our example: Philippians 2:1-11