Denial of physical intimacy

On this matter of denying our spouse sexual intimacy Paul says this....

Let the husband render unto the wife due benevolence: and likewise also the wife unto the husband. The wife hath not power of her own body, but the husband: and likewise also the husband hath not power of his own body, but the wife. **Defraud ye not** one the other, except it be with consent for a time, that ye may give yourselves to fasting and prayer; and come together again, that Satan tempt you not for your incontinency.

(1Co 7:3-5)

Now, lets look at what this word 'defraud' actually means...and how it is used elsewhere.

G650

ἀποστερέω

apostereō

ap-os-ter-eh'-o

From G575 and στερέω stereō (to deprive); to despoil: - defraud, destitute, kept back by fraud.

G650

ἀποστερέω

apostereō

Thayer Definition:

1) to defraud, rob, despoil

The word is used elsewhere and shows us what it might mean as a whole.

Behold, the hire of the labourers who have reaped down your fields, which is of you kept back by <u>fraud</u>, crieth: and the cries of them which have reaped are entered into the ears of the Lord of sabaoth.

(Jas 5:4)

PAUL calls this FRAUD to deny our spouse without reason/consent....that is a VERY serious accusation. I realize some minimize the seriousness of 'defrauding' our spouse sexual intimacy....or ANY support owed to them AS OUR SPOUSE, but this is NO small detail....it is a VERY serious issue if it is not being done by consent/agreement and if the spouse denying the other has no legitimate reason for doing so.

Ive added the following part because of the game some like to play with Paul saying he didnt speak by commandment, so apparently some claim that Paul is just making a good suggestion.

The wording doesnt dont mean 'suggestion' at all but that what Paul said wasnt by direct commandment from the Lord, but by 'fellow knowledge' along with the Lord.

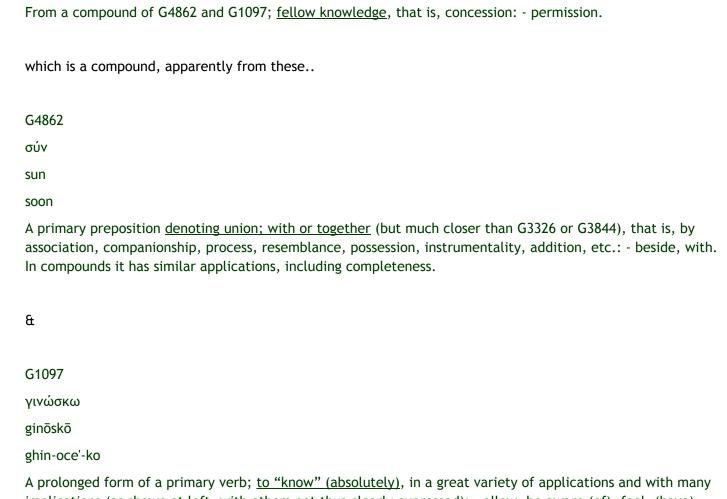
1Co 7:6 ButG1161 I speakG3004 thisG5124 byG2596 permission,G4774 and notG3756 ofG2596 commandment.G2003

G4774

συγγνώμη

suggnōmē

soong-gno'-may



implications (as shown at left, with others not thus clearly expressed): - allow, be aware (of), feel, (have) known (-ledge), perceive, be resolved, can speak, be sure, understand.

Sounds like Paul isnt saying 'Im suggesting'....sounds like Paul is saying he speaks with TOGETHER with Christ in this matter, with Christs knowledge and unity instead of only by commandment.