

HONORING JESUS IN OUR EARTHLY RELATIONSHIPS

COLOSSIANS 3:18-4:1

- **Husbands & Dads... You are to be a _____, not a _____!**

EPHESIANS 5:21-6:9

- **Wives, it is fitting for you to _____ to your husband because of _____. (v.18)**

- *'Submit' -- Voluntary willingness to let your husband lead you.*
- *Because all of us are to submit ourselves to Jesus.*
- *This also means you can choose to NOT submit to your husband if your husband is leading you to do something that is contrary to what God desires.*
- *Because your husband isn't Jesus, sometimes he's going to need your help to know how to be the kind of man God would have him to be so he can lead you.*
- *When your husband is loving and leading you well, let him. When he isn't, help him.*
- *There is mutual submission in marriage (Ephesians 5:21).*

- **Husbands, _____ your wives, and do not be _____ with them. (v.19)**

- *Love your wife by sacrificing your life for her.*
- *This is so much more than being a good provider.*
- *You must pursue her! Not passive, but active ("In pursuit of knowledge" see 1 Peter 3:7).*
- *'Harsh' -- To make bitter.*
- *If your wife is bitter, angry or distant toward you, ask yourself what you have or haven't done to make her this way? Or better still, ask her!*

- **Children, _____ your parents in everything, for this _____ the Lord. (v.20)**

- *As long as children are living under the protection of their parents, they are expected to obey them.*
- *Obviously, there are circumstances, like abuse, where this doesn't apply.*
- *This moves from obedience to honor when a child is no longer under the protection of their parents.*
- *Children, you please Jesus when you obey your parents.*

- **Fathers, do not _____ your children, lest they become _____. (v.21)**

- *'Provoke' -- To cause a rebellious attitude.*
- *'Discouraged' -- To cause your children to lose heart, to take their joy.*
- *Fathers are to be joy-givers to their children, not joy-takers!*
- *If your children are rebellious or joy-less, ask yourself what you have or haven't done to make them this way? Or better still, ask them!*

Slaves & Masters (3:22-4:1)

- *Paul is not advocating for slavery, but speaking into the cultural context and climate of his day.*
- *The encouragement he gives Christians that are slaves is to serve with a sincere heart and do it as if they are doing it for Jesus.*
- *The instruction he gives Christian 'Masters' is to treat their slaves well because, ultimately, they have a Master who will hold them accountable, God Himself!*

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COLOSSIANS 3:18-4:1

- **Husbands & Dads... You are to be a thermostat, not a thermometer!**

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