**Colossians:** Family Matters

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| 08.9.15 | Grace | Col. 3:17-4.1 | P 7 | **I live right w people to be right w God** | 25 Min |

Transition from Dedications

* I know Ron would agree: this is a great day **Diligence discipleship @ home first!**
* Attn: **Our family getting ready for Dedications at Grace**.Faithfulness to Duet 6**.**

Prayer and Introduction

Them: Today we are going to talk about Family. We purposely got to this part in Col.

Relv: No matter what, you all have a family – the one you came from, adopted you, or

Struc: **Family Matters** – as we live for God, it matters how we live. P’s instruction

**Please turn with me to Col. 3:18-4:1** If you don’t have a bible, take one.

(Review) We talk about putting off the old self. If you are serious in your desire to please God, than act like it in all your standards and relationships. This wk; real practical.

**Please the Lord in your marriage (18-19)**

* **Submit to your husbands –** This means **“Be subject to or to subordinate”.** P is not saying, “obey” merely, as the Roman world would have understood. More loving
	+ **Submission in the sense of a voluntary yielding in love.** A choice to follow.
	+ This is not an abandonment of the great NT truth, **“there is neither…male nor female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus” Gal 3:28.** It is an appeal to those equal by creation & redemption to submit to authority God has ordained.
	+ **Piper’s Defines “submission”**: (you were made for this) The divine calling of a wife to honor and affirm her husband’s leadership and to help carry it though according to her gifts [which may surpass his in may ways]. Molly as an example.
	+ **My grandma has always hated this idea** and some women do because think it is making the woman less than the man. Not true. The same word used here to explain “submission” is what the Holy Spirit does to Father, yet he is not less.
* **Wife submits to the extent that it glorifies God and affirms his right leadership**, not wrong abuse of power. Not abuse or sin. **Nancy’s story, a pastor**
* **As is fitting to the Lord -** a respectful reverence for who is asking this of us and that he’ll hold us accountable. This is “as unto the Lord” in a manner worth of Him
	+ **This goes back to Eve and the Garden:** Satan wants you to Q God’s order.
	+ ***But you don’t know my husband… he is not worth following*.** God knows your husband and knows the posture of your heart to honor God by honoring
	+ As you submit to the Lord, does not mean they are the “Lord (YHWH)” – Christ is your savior, not your husband. **You serve not simply to be regarded as a servant, but to be the joy of my heavenly Father.**

**Men/Husbands:** (All psg start w/ woman b/c a man can’t lead a unsubmisive woman)

Gentlemen don’t get puffed up or joke: *“Did you hear that woman, Submit.”* Is that what Christ would say? Did he boast in his role? No—humbly served to the point of death.

* **Husbands, love**: We love our wife like Christ loved the church: that’s a lot of love!
	+ **Some thing “Submit” is the harder call:** this is a call of selflessness to the point of death. It is easier for them to submit to a servant leader than Hitler.
	+ Headship is the divine calling of a husband to take primary responsibility for Christ-like servant leadership and protection and provision in the home.
* **Do not be harsh –** the Roman culture was hard with their wife, but so are many marriages today. This is a call to love out in our marriage what is listed in verse 12
	+ **In 1 cor 1:24 and 1 Pete 5:3 those is leadership are told not to ‘Lord over.’**

**Men:** If a woman is going to honor/affirm, she needs to have a leader worthy of it.

* Your integrity in the small decisions helps her trust you in the big decision.

**The Gospel is our picture here**: Eph 5—marriage is a picture of the beautiful love our Savior has for His church and the way His church is to love and follow Him.

* **Happily Married** – Work out your faith and trembling (reverence to Christ) and set an example for those that don’t have a good “Picture” of the Gospel. Mentor etc.
* **Unhappily married** – Stop looking at Facebook and dreaming of lives past. Stop having emotional affairs with people at work. Do not yourself away to anyone else.
* **Divorced** – I am sorry. Don’t let the bad copy you had make you embittered to Christ. **Know that ‘God can restore what the locust have eaten’** as stated in Joel.
* **Single** – The wait is worth it. Instead of dwelling on what you don’t have remembered what you do have in Christ. Use singleness for God & prepare well.

**Please the Lord in your parenting (20-21)**

* **Children, obey your parents –** This is the 5th commandment, 1st with a promise: “That you may have a long life” (Eph 6:2-3) – speaks to wisdom and glorifying God.
* **In everything:** a conscious submission to God’s design of the family.
* **For this pleases the Lord –** 6 x in 9 verses, why? B/c God is our goal. All for Him.
* **Do not provoke your children… lest they become discouraged**: "belittle, put down, move to quiet anger, or become critical". .  If you do not, you will lose their respect and the opportunity to speak into their lives. Passive aggressive, mean, “No”
	+ **Rarely critical of character—only address their behavior.** I will always love you unconditionally, but some of your behavior is unacceptable. My baggie pant
	+ **Only the father** is addressed–responsible for the discipline, teaching (Deut 6:2)
* **Ways you can exasperate your kid:** (1)Judge them w/o instruction, (2) Sarcasm or put-downs, (3) expecting them to act older than they are, (4) minimize feelings, (5) assuming what worked when you were a kid will work for them.

**The Dad is:** (1) Foundation for a kid’s security, (2) The number one person they want approval from, (3) Gives a child an image of the heavenly father. Dad picture of God**.**

**The Mom is:** (1) The consistent heart beating love an affirmation into a child life (2) The one who fosters a “safe place” and provides comfort, (3) Provides and understanding of the love of the heavenly father. The hearts in my mom’s home and her love for us.

**Family is a lifetime commitment, reflecting the permanence we are called to in becoming children of God.** Though a distorted image, shows God.

**Please the Lord in your serving (22-25)**

* **Obey, not as people-pleasers, but with sincerity of heart, fearing the Lord**. **“Sincerity”** is lit. “Focus” and “Heartily” is for result. Our chief end is His purpose.
* **You are serving the Lord**: Serving man is of little value; pleasing God is of eternal v
* **Wrongdoing will be called out.** We serve a master who sees all. Accountable for all

**Please the Lord in your Leading (4:1)**

* **Justly and fairly –** All of these words carry the idea of “As God deals with you, so also deal with others.” — “Just as your master in Heaven”. If we are His, we work like He does, not as our sinful nature would propel us to do: narcissistic, mean, bias.

**Conclusion/Application**:

1. **Have sincerity of heart in all I do** – Focus, intentionality and purpose.
2. **I live right with people to be right with God**: Yesterday with Chandler on the bed: Love God, Love others 🡪 two main commands. We do this to be a light and peace