

Colossians 3:18-4:18

Work heartily for the Lord

Colossians 3:16-17

Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God. 17 And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

- Do you let Christ flow through your life in your daily activities?
- Do you teach and admonish others about God in your day-to-day life?
- Do you have a thankful heart with God thoughts in your mind and coming out of your mouth?
- Do you do everything in the name of the Lord and thank God?
- Do these Christian rules for your household in daily life happen in your circumstance?

Vs 18-4:1 Why does God command the wife to submit to her husband? God does this because it is His plan and she is not good at it. Why does God command the husband to love the wife? God does this because it is His plan and because he is not good at it.

This is not cultural. This is God's plan.

This is not dependent upon the other person deserving it. This is God's command.

1 Timothy 2:13-14 *For Adam was formed first, then Eve; ¹⁴ and Adam was not deceived, but the woman was deceived and became a transgressor.*

This shows that God desires a woman to be submissive to her husband because of created order and the fall. This was by Gods design and this was a consequence. This is not cultural. It is Gods plan.

God tells wives to submit to their husbands.

Ephesians 5:22-33 *Wives, submit to your own husbands, as to the Lord. 23 For the husband is the head of the wife even as Christ is the head of the church, his body, and is himself its Savior. 24 Now as the church submits to Christ, so also wives should submit in everything to their husbands. 25 Husbands, love your wives, as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her, 26 that he might sanctify her, having cleansed her by the washing of water with the word, 27 so that he might present the church to himself in splendor, without spot or wrinkle or any such thing, that she might be holy and without blemish. 28 In the same way husbands should love their wives as their own bodies. He who loves his wife loves himself. 29 For no one ever hated his own flesh, but nourishes and cherishes it, just as Christ does the church, 30 because we are members of his body. 31 "Therefore a man shall leave his father and mother and hold fast to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh." 32 This mystery is profound, and I am saying that it refers to Christ and the church. 33 However, let each one of you love his wife as himself, and let the wife see that she respects her husband.*

When a wife does this, it is worship and obedience to God. God sees this and loves it!

When a man does this, it is worship and obedience to God. God sees this and loves it! God tells a man to be loving and kind and not harsh because we can be a little harsh. This is good when leading and protecting against the world, but we need not be harsh with our family.

When should a wife not submit to her husband? A woman's allegiance is to God first. She should *not* obey her husband if he is leading her to sin.

When is a man not supposed to love his wife? He is *ALWAYS* to love his wife.

A man has greater size and strength and he should use this to love, provide and protect his family.

In the flesh a man can use his strength or leadership with harsh words, threats, unkindness, or even physical violence to intimidate his wife or kids. There is no room for this in a Christian home. Instead, men are called to love their wife and kids and treat them with kindness.

Children are called to obey their parents. This is the 5th commandment (Exodus 20:12).

Ephesians 6:1-2 Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. 2 "Honor your father and mother" (this is the first commandment with a promise), 3 "that it may go well with you and that you may live long in the land." 4 Fathers, do not provoke your children to anger, but bring them up in the discipline and instruction of the Lord.

Deuteronomy 5:16 Proverbs 1:8, 6:20, 13:1 All command children to obey parents.

If a child will not listen or obey their parents, how in the world will the listen to and obey God????

The best time to teach this to children is when they are young. A younger child is more malleable, teachable, and easier to handle.

If parents refuse to discipline their children and teach them Gods way, it is likely when they age that they will rebel against their parents and against God.

Proverbs 13:24 *Whoever spares the rod hates his son, but he who loves him is diligent to discipline him.*

As people, we are made in the image of God. As a family, we reflect God the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Our biggest calling in life is to be a disciple of Christ that is making disciples of Christ. Our number one focus next to God is our family. If we train our kids up in righteousness, they will not depart from it.

As dads, we are called to be gentle and loving with our leadership. We are called to love like Jesus and sacrifice and protect physically, emotionally, spiritually, financially, and affectionately. This is how we should use our strength and leadership. We should not be harsh, abusive, angry, or heavy handed. This not only helps our family to grow; it sets an example of how they should be when they get older.

As fathers it is important to restrain our anger, show love, and use our strength in work, self-control, setting a godly example, and caring for the whole family. We should encourage our family and not discourage them.

This passage does not condone servants or slavery. It does acknowledge that we are to serve the Lord and honor God in whatever situation we are in. If we are a mother, father, child, or servant, we should do it all for the glory of Christ.

We are not to just impress our superiors or bosses with lip service or only when they are looking. We should honor God in our hearts, actions, love, and show joy whether or not people are watching. This please our Lord.

Do you love, respect, and submit to your husband?

Do you love respect, and submit to your parents?

Husbands, are you loving, caring, hardworking and diligent with your wife and kids?

Are you joyful at work? Do people see Jesus in the way you act in life, stress, and work?

If you are not married, do you shine bright for Jesus and do others feel His love in you or do you bring people down around you?

God sees what we do and how we act. He knows if we are serving Him and working for Him and His glory. He knows if we are living for yourself or for Him and others!

The way we live now will have eternal rewards. Do you live for the world, yourself, or God?

Are you just and fair? Ask God to help where you're not thriving. Repent as needed.