

Heavenly Relationships



Colossians 3:18-4:1

¹⁸ Wives, submit to your husbands, as is fitting in the Lord. ¹⁹ Husbands, love your wives, and do not be harsh with them. ²⁰ Children, obey your parents in everything, for this pleases the Lord. ²¹ Fathers, do not provoke your children, lest they become discouraged. ²² Bondservants, obey in everything those who are your earthly masters, not by way of eye-service, as people-pleasers, but with sincerity of heart, fearing the Lord. ²³ Whatever you do, work heartily, as for the Lord and not for men, ²⁴ knowing that from the Lord you will receive the inheritance as your reward. You are serving the Lord Christ. ²⁵ For the wrongdoer will be paid back for the wrong he has done, and there is no partiality.

4 Masters, treat your bondservants justly and fairly, knowing that you also have a Master in heaven.

1. How should wives respond to their husbands?

2. How should husbands respond to their wives?

3. How should child respond to their parents?

4. What was a bondservant? How were they to respond to their earthly masters?

5. What relationship now most closely mirrors that of bondservant and master?

6. Verses 14-17 are the key to the understanding what Paul says about how these relationships should work. Read these verses and discuss with your groups how understanding the context helps us operate in these relationships.

7. Verses 23-25 deal with our work relationships. How should the Christian operate within the workplace?

8. Verses 23-24 contain two promises. What are they?

9. How should those who have people working for them treat their workers?

10. How can we honor the Lord within our relationships?

11. What will you do differently as a result of this study?
