

# Christ is all.

a study in the book of colossians

## Jesus in Relationships (Part 1)

Colossians 3:18-21

### Introduction

We ended last week with **Colossians 3:17**, where we found that we are to do everything we do in the name of Jesus. This is especially true of the way we conduct our relationships. We see that Christian relationships run counter the American ideas of individualism, reminding us that we are created for community with each other.

The first sphere of influence we examine is our relationships at home, where we see that we reflect Jesus as:

- 1) An honoring wife – mirroring Jesus' subjection to God the Father (John 5:19-20)
- 2) A loving husband – demonstrating the sacrificial love of Christ (Ephesians 5:25-29)
- 3) Respectful children – obeying our parents as we would the Lord, just like Jesus obeyed His (Luke 2:51-52)
- 4) Reasonable parents – setting attainable standards and encouraging obedience

### Main Idea:

**We must bring Jesus into every relationship.**

### Discussion

- 1) How can Christians combat the idea of American individualism and demonstrate true community?
- 2) Does submission imply inferiority? Why or why not?
- 3) How can a wife communicate her disagreement and still be submissive?
- 4) How does a husband communicate love to his wife?
- 5) It has been said, "You can't be someone else's Holy Spirit." If not, then how does a husband's love sanctify his wife? (see Ephesians 5:25-29)

- 6) We gave this definition of “obedience” this morning:

*“Obedience is doing  
what I’m told to do  
when I’m told to do it  
with a happy heart.”*

Why is it important for children to learn to obey their parents like that?

- 7) How do parents exasperate their children? What kind of behaviors cause them to lose heart? With what should we replace those behaviors?
- 8) If your parents were unreasonable, how has that impacted your view of God? What has He done in your heart to help see Him more clearly?

## Application

- 1) Allow the Lord to search your heart—Do you view yourself as needing others and others needing you? If not, ask God to help you see the need for community with others.
- 2) What changes do you need to make to reflect Christ in your home?
- 3) If you are not currently married or have children, how can you pray for and encourage those who are?
- 4) Do you need to go back, possibly to your adult children, and seek their forgiveness for exasperating them? If so, how and when will you do that?