

Opening Question

Have you ever been part of a team or a small group that had extraordinary chemistry and connection? What was it about that experience that drew you to it?

Read Together

Colossians 3:18-4:1

Big Idea

When Jesus is your dominant reality, your relationships look different.

Discussion Questions

1. How do Paul's commands to wives/husbands, children/fathers and slaves/masters address our tendency to do the opposite?
2. A wife is to submit to her husband "as is fitting in the Lord" according to verse 18. From what we have learned in Colossians 3:5-17, what would that kind of submission include? What would it not include?
3. Read Ephesians 5:21-33. How does what Paul writes there expand these commands to wives and husbands?
4. What two commands does Paul give husbands in this passage? What light does Colossians 3:12-17 shed on those two commands?
5. Read Paul's command to fathers (parents) in verses 20-21. If you are a parent, do you sense you lean more toward the "aggravate and discourage your child" end of the spectrum or the "encourage your child" end?
6. Read through what Paul commands to slaves in verses 22-25. Imagine Paul is saying this to you as an employee. What principles can you draw out of this passage to guide how you live in your workplace?
7. Read 4:1. From what Paul writes to masters, what lesson or lessons can be drawn and applied to those who are employers?

Challenge

This week commit to choosing one of these areas and living it out. Read through Colossians 3:18-4:1 each morning as you prepare for your day.

Prayer

What has God been saying to you? Have each group member share one area that Paul addresses that you would like to change and grow in. You may want to confess it as sin to your group and then have someone pray for each person in regard to what the Holy Spirit has been saying to them.

Next Step

Take time to read the following New Testament passages this week to cement and confirm some of these principles in your life: Romans 12:9-21; Ephesians 4:25-5:21.

