

Focusing on Jesus in a Blurry World:

Focusing My Family on Jesus

Sermon #14, Colossians 3:18-21

Main Point: God's plan is for Jesus to have first place in your family.

Getting to Know You

1. What is one thing you learned from your parents that you want to pass on to your family? What is one thing you learned from your parents you do not want to pass on to your family?

Leader: Please remind the group that chapters 3 and 4 of Colossians direct believers to live out the new life we have in Christ. We have this new life by faith in the supremacy and sufficiency of the person and work of Jesus Christ (chapters 1 and 2). Specifically, we are called to an eternal perspective (3:1-4), the putting off of the old man of sin (3:5, 8-9), and the putting on of the new man in Christ (3:10-14).

Getting into the Book & Getting out There

Read Colossians 3:18

2. A wife's submission is often dismissed as archaic in today's world. But why is submission necessary in marriage?
3. What other components of a wife's submission are mentioned in Ephesians 5:23-24, 33b?
4. Wives, share with the group a practical example of how you have submitted to the leadership of your husband?

Read Colossians 3:19

5. How is the command to "love your wives" deepened in Ephesians 5:25-30?
6. What biblical instructions can you think of to help a husband avoid or resolve bitterness toward his wife? If possible, name specific verses.
7. Husbands, share with the group a practical example of how you have loved your wife sacrificially and sensitively?

Read Colossians 3:20

8. Why are children commanded to continually obey their parents? Consider Hebrews 12:11 in your answer.

Read Colossians 3:21

9. What are some practical examples of how a father/parent can wrongly "exasperate" or "provoke" a child to anger? Why are parents commanded not to do this?
10. Give some concrete examples of how a parent can encourage their child? Tell the group why you agree or disagree with the "time, touch, tone" instructions given in the sermon.

Prayer

Ask God to help you fulfill your role in focusing your family on Jesus.

Bonus Exercise

Work on memorizing Colossians 3:17 together.

"Whatever you do, in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks through Him to God the Father."