

HOME GROUP

24th March

Ephesians: One In Christ

Ephesians 5:21 - 6:9

Over the past few sermons in Ephesians, we've been considering what Paul says in his so-called 'household code' about how the gospel shapes and should change the different roles new believers in Ephesus are in.

READ Ephesians 5:21-6:9

- 1) Imagine a family in Ephesus, 50AD. They hear about Jesus and are converted. How are these instructions that you have just read likely to quietly revolutionise their family life?
- 2) a) What is the headline instruction in 5:21?

b) What prevents this 'mutual submission' turning into an endless competition to see who can hold the door for whom? [NB. A literal translation of the word 'submit' is 'to order under'].
- 3) Split into three groups (or, as a homegroup leader, choose one or two of these that you will all do together)

Wives and Husbands 5:22-33	Parents and Children 6:1-4	Masters and Slaves 6:5-9
Principle. What are the principles that Paul lays out here for husbands and wives?	Principle What are the principles that Paul lays out here for parents and children?	Principle What are the principles that Paul lays out here for masters and slaves?
Practice What does that look like in your marriage/ marriages around you? Is it ok for it to look different for different people? How can we apply this principle faithfully?	Practice What does this look like in our family life? How does it change as children age? What do we particularly need to take to heart as parents or as children?	Practice What does this look like for us in a workplace scenario? Who must we remember we are ultimately working for?

How should we think about these things if they do not directly apply to us in our situation?

- 4) Pray together for each other in the various roles that you have been called into in life; share specific requests based on what has struck you and convicted you as we have looked at these words over the past few weeks.