

Thoughts for Personal & Family Worship

Text: Colossians 3:18-4:1

1. Why do you think the marital relationship is emphasized so much in the New Testament (see Matthew 19:1-9; Colossians 3:18-19; Ephesians 5:22-33; 1 Peter 3:1-7; 1 Corinthians 11:3; 1 Corinthians 7:1-16, etc.)? What does this say about the sacredness of marriage in God's eyes?
2. Identify one or two areas that you struggle in most as a spouse or/and parent. How can living to please and honor Christ impact these relationships?
3. The Apostle Paul addresses slaves and masters numerous times without the wholesale condemnation of institutional slavery (see 1 Corinthians 7:20-24 and his entire letter to Philemon). How should we understand his counsel to slaves in light of the depravity of the institution of slavery?

Apply it to life: Make at least one *specific* commitment (as much as it is applicable to your specific situation) to honor Christ in all three relationships Paul mentions in this passage (marital, parental, work).

Pray about it: Repent of not striving to honor Christ in the various relationships you are in (marital, parental, work, etc.). Look to Christ for sufficient grace to endure hardships in these relationships, and seek the ministry of the Holy Spirit to empower you to please Christ in them.

Meditate on it: Ephesians 5:22-6:9

"The Christ-Honoring Family"

Colossians 3:18-4:1

Big Idea: As new creations living the new life in Christ, we must live in our homes and workplaces in a way that honors Christ.

- I. Our Marital Relationships Must Be Christ-Honoring (3:18-19)
- II. Our Parental Relationships Must Be Christ-Honoring (3:20-21)
- III. Our Work Relationships Must Be Christ-Honoring (3:22-4:1)

Applications: