



# Colossians



**SHEPHERD**CHURCH

# Week 8: Family Matters

## Welcome

Share one of your best memories from your childhood and what made that experience so good.

## Worship

As a Life Group, read ***Psalms 78:1-8*** out loud (maybe take turns reading a verse).

Briefly discuss how God working in the lives of the upcoming generations and then pray for them as a Life Group.

## Word

If you haven't already, watch the video lesson and read ***Colossians 3:18-4:1***.

1. How does ***Colossians 3:17*** set the context for Paul's instructions in ***Colossians 3:18-4:1***?

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2. What part of **Colossians 3:18-4:1** personally challenges you—submission, love, parenting, patience, integrity at work, or fairness?

3. How is **Ephesians 5:21-6:9** similar to **Colossians 3:18-4:1**? How do we see the idea of mutual submission in these passages?

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4. In **Colossians 3:19**, Paul commands husbands to love and not be harsh. Why do you think "harshness" is singled out? What might that have looked like in Paul's cultural context—and ours?

5. What does it mean for a father to "embitter" his children? How can you better encourage your kids, grandkids, nieces, nephews, etc. instead of embittering them?

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6. In **Colossians 3:22-25**, what repeated ideas, words, and phrases stand out to you? Why might repeated words be crucial to our understanding of the passage?

7. With **Colossians 3:18-4:1** in mind, read **Philippians 2:5-8; John 13:1-7; and Mark 10:42-45**. What do these passages teach us about Jesus' approach to power, leadership, and love? What's one step you can take this week to align your approach with Jesus' approach?

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## Witness

Share the name of someone you want to share Jesus with this summer. Pray for these names after everyone has shared a name.

## Personal Reflection & Deeper Study for this Week

- Memorize **Colossians 3:23** or **Colossians 3:23-24**.
- Read **Ephesians 5:21-6:9** and **1 Peter 2:13-3:7**. How are these passages similar to **Colossians 3:18-4:1**? How are they different from each other? What common themes are repeated in each passage?
- **Read Exodus 20:12; Deuteronomy 6:4-9; Colossians 3:20; and Ephesians 6:1-4.** What is the biblical foundation for children obeying parents? What is the difference between discipline that develops versus discipline that discourages? In what ways do these verses challenge both children and parents?
- Study **Colossians 3:22-4:1** in the light of **1 Corinthians 7:21-24; Philemon 1:8-21; and Galatians 3:28**. How did Paul acknowledge the reality of slavery without endorsing it? What does "work as for the Lord" mean in both ancient and modern contexts? How can these verses help reshape how we approach work, leadership, and authority today?