

S E R M O N O U T L I N E

**FIRST
THINGS
FIRST**

B R I G H T O N C O M M U N I T Y C H U R C H

FIRST THINGS FIRST

3. FIRST AT HOME

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²¹ Submit to one another out of reverence for Christ.

²² Wives, submit yourselves to your own husbands as you do to the Lord. ²³ For the husband is the head of the wife as Christ is the head of the church, his body, of which he is the Saviour.

²⁴ Now as the church submits to Christ, so also wives should submit to their husbands in everything. ²⁵ Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her...

EPHESIANS 5

¹ Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. ² 'Honour your father and mother' – which is the first commandment with a promise – ³ 'so that it may go well with you and that you may enjoy long life on the earth.'

⁴ Fathers, do not exasperate your children; instead, bring them up in the training and instruction of the Lord.

⁵ Slaves, obey your earthly masters with respect and fear, and with sincerity of heart, just as you would obey Christ. ⁶ Obey them not only to win their favour when their eye is on you, but as slaves of Christ, doing the will of God from your heart. ⁷ Serve wholeheartedly, as if you were serving the Lord, not people, ⁸ because you know that the Lord will reward each one for whatever good they do, whether they are slave or free. ⁹ And masters, treat your slaves in the same way. Do not threaten them, since you know that he who is both their Master and yours is in heaven, and there is no favouritism with him.

EPHESIANS 6

#1. A HIGHER MOTIVATION FOR SUBMISSION

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EPHESIANS 6

#2. A BETTER EXERCISE OF AUTHORITY

²⁵ Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her...

EPHESIANS 5

⁴ Fathers, do not exasperate your children.

EPHESIANS 6

⁹ And masters, treat your slaves in the same way. Do not threaten them, since you know that he who is both their Master and yours is in heaven, and there is no favouritism with him.

EPHESIANS 6

#3.

A GREATER GOAL FOR ADVANCEMENT

²⁵ Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her ²⁶ to make her holy, cleansing her by the washing with water through the word, ²⁷ and to present her to himself as a radiant church, without stain or wrinkle or any other blemish, but holy and blameless.

EPHESIANS 5

⁴ Fathers, do not exasperate your children; instead, bring them up in the training and instruction of the Lord.

EPHESIANS 6

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Rather than merely tolerating or co-existing with them, reflect on some ways in which you are failing to honour your family members. Conversely, what are some things you can do to positively honour the people at home?

2. How does the Bible's perspective of parenting differ from traditional or modern ideas of parenting? If you are a parent, what must you do to align yourself with the Bible's teaching?

If you hire domestic helper(s), how can you be a different kind of employer because you are a Christian? What are some ways you might need to relate to your domestic helper(s) differently from now?

3. How can you help your family members to know Jesus (if they are unbelievers) or to become more like Jesus?