

Ephesians 5:21-6:4

Study 10: The submissive church



Why is Paul writing this?

1. Paul begins this section with a focus on submission. How does his train of thought continue from the previous section?

2. vv. 22-24 are particularly controversial in today's society. How should we understand them in their original context and for today?

3. Far from being 'downtrodden' by men, wives are to be cherished. What responsibility does Paul say husbands have (vv. 25-28)?

4. In simple terms, why should children obey their parents (6:1)?

5. What is the significance of Paul's phrase 'the first commandment with a promise' (vv. 2-3)? How should we understand this?

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How does this apply to or influence us today?

1. What does submission really mean to us in the fellowship of God? When (or in what circumstances) do we find it difficult to be submissive?

2. How, as Christians, do we reconcile the Bible's teaching on male / female roles with the current drive for equality?

3. As husbands, what challenges are there for us? How can we encourage those who are husbands?

4. What are the challenges in raising godly children? Obeying their parents certainly doesn't come naturally!

5. Is there a cut-off age for when we don't need to obey our parents?

6. What can we learn about God through these practical instructions in Ephesians?