

**Series:** Colossians–The Supremacy of Christ

**Sermon:** The Gospel in the Household

**Scripture:** Colossians 3:18-4:1

**Teacher:** Caleb Click

**Date:** May 28, 2023

**Colossians 3:18-4:1 (ESV)**

<sup>18</sup> *Wives, submit to your husbands, as is fitting in the Lord.*

<sup>19</sup> *Husbands, love your wives, and do not be harsh with them.*

<sup>20</sup> *Children, obey your parents in everything, for this pleases the Lord.*

<sup>21</sup> *Fathers, do not provoke your children, lest they become discouraged.*

<sup>22</sup> *Bondservants, obey in everything those who are your earthly masters, not by way of eye-service, as people-pleasers, but with sincerity of heart, fearing the Lord.*

<sup>23</sup> *Whatever you do, work heartily, as for the Lord and not for men,*

<sup>24</sup> *knowing that from the Lord you will receive the inheritance as your reward. You are serving the Lord Christ.*

<sup>25</sup> *For the wrongdoer will be paid back for the wrong he has done, and there is no partiality.*

<sup>1</sup> *Masters, treat your bondservants justly and fairly, knowing that you also have a Master in heaven.*

1. Wives and Husbands

2. Children and Parents

“You’re Marine kids, and you can chew nails while other kids are sucking cotton candy. You’re Mitchums. A Mitchum is a thoroughbred, a winner all the way. Gets the best grades, wins the most awards, and excels in sports. A Mitchum never gives up.”

– *The Great Santini* (1979)

“Paul refers to the constant nagging or belittling of a child ... the refusal to allow children to be people in their own right instead of carbon copies of their parents or their parents’ fantasies. Children treated like this became ‘discouraged’ or ‘dispirited’: hearing continually, both verbally and non-verbally, that they are of little value, they come to believe it, and either sink down in obedient self-hatred or over-react with boastful but anxious self-assertion. The parents’ duty is, in effect, to live out the gospel to the child: that is, to assure their children that they are loved and accepted and valued for who they are, not for who they ought to be, should have been, or might (if only they would try a little harder) become.”

– N.T. Wright, *Colossians and Philemon*

### 3. Slaves and Masters

“[Y]our very sins move him more to pity than to anger ... yea, his pity is increased the more towards you, even as the heart of a father is to a child that has some loathsome disease ... his hatred shall all fall ... [not on you but] ... only upon the sin, to free you of it by its ruin and destruction, but his bowels shall be the more drawn out to you; and this as much when you lie under sin as under any other affliction. Therefore fear not, 'What shall separate us from Christ's love?'"

– Thomas Goodwin, *The Heart of Christ*