



# REVEALED

The Mystery of Christ in Ephesians

**Ephesians 6:1-9**

June 21<sup>st</sup>, 2015

# CHRIST-CENTERED HONOR (HOW HIERARCHY & EQUALITY MEET IN THE CROSS)

## OUR TWO FUNDAMENTAL RELATIONSHIPS

*Jesus said, "Love the Lord your God with all your passion and prayer and intelligence.' This is the most important, the first on any list. But there is a second to set alongside it: 'Love others as well as you love yourself.' These two commands are pegs; everything in God's Law and the Prophets hangs from them." – Matthew 22:37-40 (MSG)*

### 1. Our Vertical Relationships

### 2. Our Horizontal Relationships

## ROLE WITH IT! (HOW TO KEEP THE RELATIONSHIP WHILE MAINTAINING THE ROLES)

<sup>23</sup> So if you are presenting a sacrifice at the altar in the Temple and you suddenly remember that someone has something against you, <sup>24</sup> leave your sacrifice there at the altar. Go and be reconciled to that person. Then come and offer your sacrifice to God. – Matthew 5:23-24 (NLT)

### Role #1: Child to Parent

*Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. <sup>2</sup> "Honor your father and mother" (this is the first commandment with a promise), <sup>3</sup> "that it may go well with you and that you may live long in the land." – Ephesians 6:1-3 (ESV)*

- Embrace the Power of Honor-driven Obedience

*Romans 1:28-30; 2 Timothy 3:1-5*

- Enjoy the Blessing of Quantity & Quality of Life

### Role #2: Parent to Child

*Fathers, do not provoke your children to anger, but bring them up in the discipline and instruction of the Lord. – Ephesians 6:4 (ESV)*

- Avoid Creating Settled-Animosity

## Colossians 3:21

- Balance Discipline With Encouragement

*A rod and reproof impart wisdom, but a child who is unrestrained brings shame to his mother. – Proverbs 29:15 (NET)*

- Balance Dependence With Independence
- Tie Everything To Your Christ-life

### Role #3: Employee to Employer

*<sup>5</sup> Bondservants, obey your earthly masters with fear and trembling, with a sincere heart, as you would Christ, <sup>6</sup> not by the way of eye-service, as people-pleasers, but as bondservants of Christ, doing the will of God from the heart, <sup>7</sup> rendering service with a good will as to the Lord and not to man, <sup>8</sup> knowing that whatever good anyone does, this he will receive back from the Lord, whether he is a bondservant or is free. – Ephesians 6:5-8 (ESV)*

- Work For Your Employer As You Would For Christ

### Role #4: Employer to Employee

*Masters, do the same to them, and stop your threatening, knowing that he who is both their Master and yours is in heaven, and that there is no partiality with him. – Ephesians 6:9 (ESV)*

- Accept Your Call To Mutual Responsibility
- Practice The Power of Managerial Restraint

How The Cross Harmonizes Both  
*Submitting to one another in the fear of Christ – Ephesians 5:21 (HCSB)*

## I Will Live The Mystery by...

- Memorizing **Ephesians 6:4**
- Holding the two fundamental relationships close to my heart.
- Letting the Cross harmonize all my roles and relationships.
- Accepting Jesus as my Lord and Savior.

## WALK THE TALK A Growth Group Guide

1. What positive memories, if any, do you have with your parents when it comes to discipline and counsel? (Or) What was the hardest boss you have ever had to work with, and how did you handle him/her?
2. Since we will always have vertical and horizontal relationships, why is accepting them so important? How does the Great Commandment help us accept these two relationships better?
3. Choose one of the four roles the Bible addresses in Ephesians 6:1-9 above. How are you challenged by that role (even as an adult child)? What have you found to help you live that role out more successfully?
4. How does knowing Jesus Christ, and who he is and how he lives, help you “role with it” better? What has he taught you about relationships within the assigned role in life?
5. What do you think you specifically need to do this week to start “living the mystery of Christ” out?