

Col 2:11 – How Then Should We Live - Col 3:18-4:1

In our Study of Colossians - We've been talking about

the Life-Transforming Power

of us being IDENTIFIED with Jesus Christ – thru faith in him

We've been talking about the Radical truth – that "In Christ"

we have DIED to the Old 'Self' Life

& we have been RAISED to New Life - in HIM

Which leads us to – the "Put-Off" "Put-On" Transformation Process  
of us Actually LIVING in our New Life in Christ

We PUT OFF the Old Life that we've DIED to - &

We PUT ON the New Life that we've been RAISED TO

---

& so – in that PROCESS –

in our Last msg we looked at

the "New Life Traits" that we inherited

When we received Jesus Christ as our Savior & Lord

& we said NOW – With the Power of the Holy Spirit -  
we need to

"Put On" – "Clothe Ourselves" - "Be Immersed In"

The "New Life Traits" that we've inherited In Christ

**So today - we get to the Question**

**What should our NEW LIFE in Christ look Like -  
When we begin Living In these New Life Traits?**

In other words - **HOW THEN SHOULD WE LIVE?**

**Let's Pray**

---

---

**Today we're going to look at 3-PAIRS of RELATIONSHIPS  
that God is addressing in Col Ch 3**

**God is a Relational God  
& so our New Life Traits are FOCUSED on**

**a Right VERTICAL Relationship with God  
& Right HORIZONTAL relationships with others**

**& here are the THREE Horizontal Relationships  
That God deals with in these Vs's**

**WIVES & HUSBANDS**

**CHILDREN & PARENTS**

**EMPLOYEES & EMPLOYERS**

---

---

**So FIRST – God ADDRESSES Wives and Husbands –  
& God starts . . . with the WIVES**

## Wives

- 1) Because you've PUT-OFF the OLD LIFE
- 2) Because you've Been Transformed from the Inside/Out
- 3) Because you've PUT-ON the NEW LIFE in Christ

## Colossians 3:18 says (NLT)

*18 Wives, submit to your husbands, as is fitting for those who belong to the Lord.*

In our Marriage Series - "God's Design For Marriage"

You can find the Msg – The S Word is For Everyone

Where we go into detail - on the two uses of the word "SUBMIT"

But for today - let's just go over to Eph 5 -  
in order to get some "Critical Context"

Eph 4 - 6 is the PARALLEL TEACHING to Col 3

And – in Eph 5 – we have a CRITICAL - Summary Verse  
that kicks off this Exact SAME Teaching in Ephesians

Just like Col Ch 3 - Ephesians is teaching what it looks like  
when we are LIVING in our New Life Traits

Here's the Summary Vs for this Relationship Section in Eph Ch 5

## Ephesians 5:21 (NLT)

*21 And further, submit to one another out of reverence for Christ.*

This is the 5th RESULT of being

Continually Filled with the Holy Spirit - that starts in Eph 5:15

**AND** – **it** is **THE KICK-OFF VS** - in **Eph Ch 5**

for the **SAME 3** - **Priority Relationships**  
that **we're dealing** with **here** in **Col Ch 3**

& **it's clear** – these **New Life Traits**

**Are ALL** - an **Expounding On** – (what it **LOOKS LIKE**)  
**WHEN** we are **SUBMITTING to One ANOTHER**

---

**let** me **SHOW YOU** What **I mean** – in **Eph 5:21-25**

**Eph 5:21-22,25 – NLT**

***21 And further, submit to one another out of reverence for Christ.  
22 For wives, this means submit to your husbands as to the Lord .***

***..***

***25 For husbands, this means love your wives, just as Christ loved the church . . .***

**Eph 5** makes **it clear**  
that our **RELATIONAL New Life Traits**

**Are** the **OUTCOME** of the **general call**  
**to submit to one another**

---

**It helps** to **know** that the **word SUBMIT**  
has **TWO USES** (*two meanings*) in **the Bible**

## The word SUBMIT

HAS a GREATER (Broader) MEANING,  
& it HAS a LESSER (more Narrow) MEANING

When EPH 5:21 says – we are ALL CALLED  
*to submit to one another out of reverence for Christ*

This is SUBMIT in the GREATER (Broader) SENSE

It MEANS: *To Come Under, To Support, To Hold Up one another*

THAT is the Greater (Broader) SENSE of the word submit

---

---

When the word SUBMIT is used for the Wife –  
it is being used in its NARROWER (or personal) SENSE

& its Definition is referring to Order, Cooperation, & Partnership

It's actually a reference to military structure – Meaning:  
to Place in Order, to Cooperate in a Structure or Partnership

& THAT is the New Life Trait God uses for Wives in

## Colossians 3:18 (again) (NLT)

*18 Wives, submit to your husbands, as is fitting for those who belong to the Lord.*

The use of the word Submit here – is referring to  
Leadership Order – Cooperation - & Partnership

---

---

If this concept of “Submitting to One Another” is NEW to you

(again) Go to WBM.com or the WBM Ph App  
& SEARCH - “The S Word is for Everyone”

---

So – BACK in Col Ch 3 - Moving on to

## HUSBANDS

- 1) Because you’ve PUT-OFF the OLD LIFE
- 2) Because you’ve Been Transformed from the Inside/Out
- 3) Because you’ve PUT-ON the NEW LIFE in Christ

Colossians 3:19 says (NLT)

*19 Husbands, love your wives and never treat them harshly.*

AGAIN – *for context* – Let me put Eph 5 back up on the screen

Ephesians 5:21 & 25 (NLT)

*21 . . . submit to one another out of reverence for Christ.*

. . .

*25 For husbands, this means love your wives, just as Christ loved the church . . .*

Husbands – How do you “Submit To Your Wife” - Meaning

How do you “Come Under her” - “Support her” – “Hold her up ?”

All you have to do is Love Her . . . IN the same way,  
and to the Same Extent as Christ loved the church

Which includes - - - never treating her harshly

or (as CSB says) – never becoming Bitter towards her

**because of His love for us**

**Jesus Christ NEVER treated us Harshly  
& he NEVER became BITTER toward us**

**& because Jesus never did with us**

**we must never become that way with our Wives**

**LOVE your Wife – AS Christ LOVED the Church**

**LEAD your Wife and Family – AS Christ LEADS the church**

**& you will be LIVING in your New Life traits**

---

---

**Next is - Children**

- 1) **Because you've PUT-OFF the OLD LIFE**
- 2) **Because you've Been Transformed from the Inside/Out**
- 3) **Because you've PUT-ON the NEW LIFE in Christ**

**Then Colossians 3:20 says (NLT)**

***20 Children, always obey your parents, for this pleases the Lord.***

**The word “Obey” means:**

***To heed, comply, & follow the directions of another***

**Children – If you've made Jesus your Lord – One of the ways you begin to LIVE in your New Life Traits – is to OBEY your parents**

***Because THIS pleases the Lord***

**Your New Life in Christ – is displayed - in your WILLINGNESS  
to obey your parents**

---

---

**Next is – Fathers (& by inference – Mothers)**

- 1) **Because** you've **PUT-OFF** the **OLD LIFE**
- 2) **Because** you've **Been Transformed** from the **Inside/Out**
- 3) **Because** you've **PUT-ON** the **NEW LIFE** in Christ

**Then - Colossians 3:21 says (NLT)**

***21 Fathers (& Mothers), do not aggravate your children, or they will become discouraged.***

**This word** for “**AGGRAVATE**” means:

***“to arouse to wrath or anger, to the point of exasperation”***

The **ESV** says here - ***Fathers, do not provoke your children, lest they become discouraged.***

**There** are **2 Primary ways** that we **Exasperate** our **children** to the **point** of **discouragement**

The **FIRST One** - is **being**  
**Over Controlling** & **Over Disciplining**

If your **Children** can **NEVER do anything RIGHT** in your **eyes**

**Then** I **Guarantee** - you are **Exasperating** your **children** to the **point** of **them** becoming **totally discouraged**

**HOWEVER** - the **other extreme**  
**ALSO** causes **Exasperation** & **Discouragement**

If you **NEVER, EVER Guide, Direct, & Discipline** your **children** you will **ALSO exasperate** them - & they will **become discouraged**



**Parents** – We **must Guide, Direct, & Discipline** our **Children**,  
In a **Balanced** - & **Consistent Way**

**So they will not become exasperated or discouraged**

---

---

**& then - Employees**

- 1) **Because** you've **PUT-OFF** the **OLD LIFE**
- 2) **Because** you've **Been Transformed** from the **Inside/Out**
- 3) **Because** you've **PUT-ON** the **NEW LIFE** in Christ

**Then - Colossians 3:22–23 say (NLT)**

***22 Slaves (employees), obey your earthly masters (employers) in everything you do. Try to please them all the time, not just when they are watching you. Serve them sincerely because of your reverent fear of the Lord.***

***23 Work willingly at whatever you do, as though you were working for the Lord rather than for people.***

**I learned a lot** in my **time owning & running**  
a **decent sized Mortgage business**

& **we hired** mostly **Christians**, & **many single moms**,  
or **moms needing** a **good job** – **mostly** from **our own church**

& **one** of the **saddest lessons** I **learned later** was

**these Christian employees** (that **we** were **trying** so **hard** to **help**)  
**could hear me** or **my partner walking down the hall**,

& **when** they **heard** our **footsteps** they **would all scramble**  
to **LOOK like** they were **working** – (*because they often weren't*)

That is NOT living in your New Life Traits – as an Employee

& I've had the SAME EXACT thing happen  
with employees in the church

who are MUCH MORE interested in making me  
THINK they are working

Than they are interested in  
Actually WORKING for the Lord

This is Super SAD  
Because Living in your New Life Traits MEANS,

Doing your Job WELL  
& NOT just when someone is watching,

& it means serving sincerely & willingly  
as tho you were working for THE LORD & not for people

---

---

our New Life Traits deal with  
Practical Everyday Situations - from an Eternal Perspective

& So, BECAUSE OF your New Life in Christ

that your Boss should say  
“Man, that is the best employee I’ve got”

If we'll grasp this  
it will really "Free Us" in the workplace

& we can just fly in there & do our best job for God

Out Of a Reverence For God  
& ON BEHALF of our Employer

AS V.23 says

*23 Work willingly at whatever you do, as though you were working for the Lord rather than for people.*

& Then – The END RESULT is :

We give Jesus Christ a GOOD NAME in our workplace

We can be at peace as we work FOR the Lord

The LORD will reward us – because it's Him we're working for

Look at Colossians 3:24 (NLT)

*24 Remember that the Lord will give you an inheritance as your reward, and that the Master you are serving is Christ.*

If we are truly working for the Lord

then the Lord WILL reward us with an inheritance – not man

There is only One Master above all,

& you can get up & go to work for him TOMORROW

AND THAT is a Great Way to get up & go to work

**However - - w/ the Blessing of Working for the Lord  
also Comes a WARNING**

**V.25 is still talking about Employees on the job**

**Colossians 3:25 (NLT)**

***25 But if you do what is wrong, you will be paid back for the wrong you have done. For God has no favorites.***

**God will reward us for working well**

**BUT if we do what is wrong on the job,  
we will be paid back for the wrong we have done**

**Because - God has no favorites**

---

**& Finally – The “New Life Trait” for All  
Employers, Bosses, or Overseers in the Church**

**Employers**

- 1) **Because** you've **PUT-OFF** the **OLD LIFE**
- 2) **Because** you've **Been Transformed** from the **Inside/Out**
- 3) **Because** you've **PUT-ON** the **NEW LIFE** in Christ

**Colossians 4:1 says (NLT)**

***1 Masters (employers), be just and fair to your slaves (employees). Remember that you also have a Master—in heaven.***

(Again) **Every BOSS** has a **MASTER** –  
& **For US** – Our **Master is in Heaven**

**I've been a Boss** (in one way or another) **for a long time**  
& I **may not be** that **good at it**

**But I know one** thing **FOR SURE** –  
*I may **BE** a **Boss** or **Employer** – But **I am NOT in CHARGE***

*Because **I HAVE a Boss** – **I HAVE a Master***  
& **He's watching ME** Very **CLOSELY**

& **He will** either **Reward** me  
**OR Hold me Responsible** – **For MY Actions**

**Just like** He **will for** the **people**  
**who I am called to Serve as their Overseer or Employer**

---

**& so – Wrapping Up**

In these **Vital Relationships**  
**THIS THEN - is How We Should Live**

**BUT - It's NOT –WORK really hard to do these things**

**INSTEAD it's** – **If Indeed** you **have**  
**Surrendered** your **life** to **Jesus Christ**

**Then these** are the **INHERITED TRAITS**  
that **came** with your **New Life in Christ**

**SO . . . With the Power of the Holy Spirit**  
**Put Them On – Clothe Yourself** in them

**& Begin to Live in accordance with Who you Are In Christ**

---

---

**But always remember – The New Life – COMES FIRST !**

**& THEN – ISSUING FORTH FROM** That **New Life**  
Your **New Life Traits** begin to **show**

---

---

**My Prayer - is that we would leave here saying;**

**Because** you've **PUT-OFF** the **OLD LIFE**  
**Because** you've **Been Transformed** from the **Inside/Out**

**THEN** – With the **POWER** of **the Holy Spirit**

I **am going** to **PUT ON**  
(*Clothe Myself in*) (*Be Immersed in*)

**THE NEW LIFE that** I have **inherited** in **Jesus Christ**

---

---

**THIS THEN IS HOW WE SHOULD LIVE !!**

**Let's Pray**