



SERMON STUDY GUIDE

“EPHESIANS 6:1-9” ON NOVEMBER 3 & 6, 2022

CONNECT

How did last week's passage we read/discussed affect your week?

DISCOVER: EPHESIANS 5:21-33

- What did the passage say (in your own words) or what impacted you/did you take away from the sermon this week?
- How does this passage or did the sermon point you to Jesus (teach us about Jesus)?
- Did you find anything challenging about this passage (words you didn't understand, phrases that didn't make sense, etc.)?

EPHESIANS 6:1-9 WHY WOULD YOU DO THAT? We often ask ourselves or others this question! For every WHY that we do there's a BELIEF behind it. When something doesn't work out as we had thought, something is BROKEN in what we are believing. The big question is, "DO YOU KNOW YOUR WHY?" If we don't know our WHY, then we won't know our WAY! As Christ-followers, our WAY matters if we are focused on pointing others around us to Jesus! This matters in how we Love God and Love People!

It is important that we consider each subject Paul addresses in context of the entire letter to the Ephesians. Paul is saying in this letter – "God loves you SO much, and here is how we should live because of that." In this call to address relationships between children and parents, slaves and masters, it is important to go back to Ephesians 5:21 for a point of reference.

- Read Ephesians 5:21.....what does reverence mean to you – what does it look like in the way you live your life?
- How does 'reverence for Christ' shape the way we approach submitting to one another? What happens when we are convicted of something but our 'flesh' interferes?
- Why do you think Paul put that verse in that particular place in his letter to the Ephesians? Look at prior points of his letter as well as what follows this verse.

Children and Parents: If the WHY of our lives isn't rooted in Jesus, we are setting ourselves up for trouble ahead!

The relationship between a child and a parent WILL bring conflict and trials; that is a given! The dynamics of that relationship are affected so much by motives on the part of children or parents! Paul addresses both involved parties!

- "Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right." What was the point of Paul quoting Exodus 20:12? Consider the idea of blessings and curses of God's Commandments – how do those ideas enter into Paul's discussion here? How does that affect your life personally?
- "Fathers, do not exasperate your children; INSTEAD, bring them up in the training and instruction of the Lord." What are ways you have seen the anger generated by 'exasperating' a child either in your own life as a child, your life as a parent, or in the lives of those around you? How could that anger have been prevented in the family relationship?
- Baggage. Anger in a child leaves baggage. What are ways we inconsistently treat our kids or put expectations upon them that cause anger, misunderstanding, or conflict? In a parent-child conflict, how often have you considered your MOTIVE for your viewpoint rather than 'winning' the battle.....what is your ultimate concern for the other person? If the WHY is wrong, will the WAY be wrong?
- Success. What is a measure for success for our children? Why does it matter? What is the role and responsibility of the parent to help your child grow and find success?



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Slaves and Masters: Again, if the WHY is wrong, the WAY will be wrong. Paul encourages wholehearted obedience on the part of the slave, but he also asks the master to remember to treat their slaves with respect, as equals before God.

- Read Galatians 3:28 How does this verse shed light on Paul's words to slaves and masters? How should this verse impact everything you experience, everything you say and do? What are practical ways you can apply this verse this week as you point others to Jesus?
- How would the knowledge that Paul had made himself a slave to Christ help slaves hearing these words to be obedient to their masters and help masters have respect and concern for their slaves? Why are obedience and respect so important here?
- Adam mentioned that if the WHY is that in the END God will REDEEM ALL THINGS, and He has ETERNITY before us, for that sake our most primary role as Christ-followers to point people to the eternal hope of Jesus!
- How will you carry that out this week as you submit to others out of reverence for Christ? DO YOU KNOW YOUR WHY?

RESPOND

- How does this passage encourage you, challenge you, or change you in your efforts to become more like Jesus?
- What is one thing you learned about yourself from God's Word? How will you respond in obedience this week?
- Who is someone you can have a conversation with about what Jesus is doing in your life or invite to join you at a CU Church gathering.

PRAY

... for each other and spend time praising God. Pray that he will show you how to better love God and love people.