

## Title

"Under His Love: Exploring Submission in the Family"

## Message Summary

In this message, we explore the concept of submission within the family, as taught in Ephesians 6:1-4. The focus is on the child-parent relationship, emphasizing the biblical perspective of submission instead of the world's view. Submission, often associated with weakness, is redefined to establish order and authority under God's will. The sermon challenges the traditional understanding of the term and invites us to consider Jesus' example of submission to His earthly parents and ultimately to God the Father.

The message also addresses fathers' responsibilities in not provoking their children to anger but instead nurturing them in the Lord's training and instruction. It highlights the importance of obedience and honor within the family unit, promising that such attitudes lead to a life filled with love, understanding, and God's favor. The sermon concludes with a call to all, regardless of family status, to reflect on their role in the greater community and to submit to Jesus as Lord.

## Intro Prayer

Heavenly Father, as we gather to reflect on Your word and the message we've heard, we ask for open hearts and minds. Help us understand the true meaning of submission within our families and our lives. May Your Spirit guide our discussion so that we may grow closer to You and to one another. Teach us to submit to Your will with joy, just as Jesus did, and to foster relationships that honor You. In Jesus' name, we pray, Amen.

## Ice Breaker

What's one childhood game you remember playing that brings back happy memories?

## Key Verses

Ephesians 6:1-4 (NIV) 1. "Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right." 2. "Honor your father and mother—which is the first commandment with a promise—" 3. "so that it may go well with you and that you may enjoy long life on the earth." 4. "Fathers, do not exasperate your children; instead, bring them up in the training and instruction of the Lord."

## Questions

1. What does the word 'submission' mean to you, and how does it make you feel?
2. How does the biblical concept of submission differ from the world's view?
3. Why is it important for children to obey their parents, and what does this look like in practical terms?
4. How can fathers avoid exasperating their children while providing discipline and guidance?
5. How can we honor our parents throughout our lives, even as adults?

6. How can we apply the principle of submission to our relationships outside the family?
7. In what ways did Jesus demonstrate submission, and how can we follow His example?
8. How can we encourage each other in our church community to build families that reflect God's love and order?

## **Life Application**

This week let's each find one way to demonstrate submission in our lives that honors God and strengthens our relationships. Whether it's listening more attentively to a family member, respecting a decision we may not fully agree with, or simply performing an act of service without seeking recognition, let's put into practice the biblical understanding of submission.