

SERMON GROUP STUDY GUIDE

What was the most significant thing you learned from the sermon or something in the sermon you didn't quite understand?

DIGGING INTO THE TEXT - COLOSSIANS 3:20-21

- Brad pointed out that authority and submission within the Trinity are not about superiority, but about order and purpose. How does this influence the way authority is practiced in the home?
- What motivation is given for children to obey parents?
- Why do you think fathers are particularly addressed in verse 21?
- What might be an example of a father provoking a child?
- Are there attitudes or dispositions you have as a parent that makes it harder for your children to want to obey you?
- Paul says children are to "obey your parents in everything," but Scripture also teaches, "We must obey God rather than men" (Acts 5:29). What does that tell us about the limits of a child's obedience to their parents?
- When someone becomes an adult, Scripture still calls them to "honor" their father and mother. What does honoring your parents look like in adulthood?
- Paul addresses marriage, parenting, and family life (Ephesians 5:22-6:9), and moves directly into the armor of God passage (6:10-20). What does this connection suggest about where spiritual battles are often fought?
- Can we afford to let our guard down in our homes?

TAKEAWAYS

FIX YOUR EYES ON THE LORD JESUS CHRIST

Luke 2:49-52; Philippians 2:8; John 19:26-27; Hebrews 5:7-8

- How does Jesus' example of humble obedience — to His earthly parents and ultimately to His Heavenly Father — challenge the way we respond to authority in our own lives?
- In what practical ways can we follow Jesus' example this week by showing both obedience to God and honor toward the people He has placed in our lives?

PRAY.

- When we pray for our families, do we tend to ask God to change circumstances or to change hearts? Why is this distinction important? *Romans 8:28*
- Will you commit to being more intentional about praying for the spiritual lives of your family members? If you need a place to start, Try praying the words of Ephesians 3:14-21 over your family members.

"Heavenly Father, I pray that according to the riches of Your glory, You would strengthen _____ with power through Your Spirit in their inner being, so that Christ may dwell in their heart through faith. Root them and establish them in love. Help them grasp how wide and long and high and deep the love of Christ is and to know that love which surpasses all knowledge. Fill them with all the fullness of God. In Jesus' name, Amen."