



**Series:** Ephesians: Taking Ground  
**Text:** Ephesians 5:21-6:9 **Title:** “Breakthrough Relationships”  
**Date:** July 24, 2022 **Speaker:** Jordan Hansen

**Edison Bulb:** “Though he didn’t come up with the whole concept, his light bulb was the first that proved practical, and affordable, for home illumination. The trick had been choosing a filament that would be durable but inexpensive, and the team at Edison’s “invention factory” in Menlo Park, New Jersey, tested more than 6,000 possible materials before finding one that fit the bill: carbonized bamboo.” - **Jennifer Latson, Time Magazine, How Edison Invented the Light Bulb — And Lots of Myths About Himself**

→**What does breakthrough look like for my relationships?**

The greatest wounds we carry are the wounds from the people closest to us. We’ve all heard it said, “Hurt people, hurt people.” **But God’s Word can bring the breakthrough to break the cycle of dysfunctional relationships in our lives!** God wants to transform our relationships. The way we treat our spouses, our kids, and those we work with must now reflect our relationship with Jesus. We need to find a new filament!

What is the book of Ephesians all about? 1-3: We must understand what God has done for us... 4-6: ...before we can understand what we can do for God!

<b>Week 1:</b>	Poem of praise about the Trinity at work in salvation.	Ephesians 1:1-14
<b>Week 2:</b>	Paul’s Prayer of enlightenment	Ephesians 1:15-23
<b>Week 3:</b>	Salvation: Saved from SIN!	Ephesians 2:1-10
<b>Week 4:</b>	Jew & Gentile: ONE FAMILY	Ephesians 2:11-22
<b>Week 5:</b>	Paul’s Calling & His Prayer of empowerment	Ephesians 3:1-21
<b>Week 6:</b>	A Worthy Life Together	Ephesians 4:1-6
<b>Week 7:</b>	A Healthy Church	Ephesians 4:7-16
<b>Week 8:</b>	Changed Lives	Ephesians 4:17-32
<b>Week 9:</b>	Living in the Light	Ephesians 5:1-20
<b>Week 10:</b>	Breakthrough Relationships	Ephesians 5:21-6:9

How can we take ground for God? One of the biggest way is through our relationships...Marriage/Parenting/Work.

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

**21:Our relationship with Jesus changes how we relate to one another!→Revere = deep respect or admiration**

- Paul tells us that we can SUBMIT to each other (military term of being outranked)...out of reverence for Christ!
- Do I revere Christ?→Randall→revered me so he treated Justin like an officer in the Army.
- Out of reverence for Christ...we treat people like they outrank us.→CS Lewis Quote
  - This doesn’t mean there isn’t authority in the church / roles assigned by God.
  - This doesn’t mean we act as doormats to each other...letting people walk all over us.
  - = Revering Jesus leads us to serve, think of others, give up “rights,”...honor, forgive, apologize...→Last week
- VISION:MESA...can we be a church that doesn’t spit loogies in peoples hats when they come in?

→Transition: Read point. So...how does our reverence for Jesus change the way we relate to each other in marriage?

22 For wives, this means submit to your husbands as to the Lord. 23 For a husband is the head of his wife as Christ is the head of the church. He is the Savior of his body, the church. 24 As the church submits to Christ, so you wives should submit to your husbands in everything.

25 For husbands, this means love your wives, just as Christ loved the church. He gave up his life for her 26 to make her holy and clean, washed by the cleansing of God's word. 27 He did this to present her to himself as a glorious church without a spot or wrinkle or any other blemish. Instead, she will be holy and without fault. 28 In the same way, husbands ought to love their wives as they love their own bodies. For a man who loves his wife actually shows love for himself. 29 No one hates his own body but feeds and cares for it, just as Christ cares for the church. 30 And we are members of his body. 31 As the Scriptures say, "A man leaves his father and mother and is joined to his wife, and the two are united into one." 32 This is a great mystery, but it is an illustration of the way Christ and the church are one. 33 So again I say, each man must love his wife as he loves himself, and the wife must respect her husband.

**22-33: Out of reverence for Christ, we model what marriage represents.** → Paul: Marriage represents Jesus & Church

- Jesus is the head of the church and is ultimately responsible for it. → Does my marriage reflect this?
- Justin: "I'd take a beating for her..." → Guys... it aint enough to take a beating! Thats not love.
- Wives submit to husbands as unto the Lord & husbands love your wives like Christ loves the church! → Singles
  - Wives = Submission doesn't mean you don't make decisions, have opinion, aren't equal partners. It means you accept/comfortable that your husband is responsible to love you like Christ loves the church. → Exceptions
  - Husbands = Sacrificial love. God's Word... leading to her ULTIMATE God purpose (holy). → Tungsten ring
  - My wife wanted to get her masters degree / drive → My parents modeled. → Developing NOT domineering...
- VISION: Mesa... can we be a church that models marriage? → Lord, help us because marriage can be hard.

→ Transition: Out of reverence for Christ, we model what marriage represents. So what about parenting?

6.1 Children, obey your parents because you belong to the Lord, for this is the right thing to do. 2 "Honor your father and mother." This is the first commandment with a promise: 3 If you honor your father and mother, "things will go well for you, and you will have a long life on the earth."

4 Fathers, do not provoke your children to anger by the way you treat them. Rather, bring them up with the discipline and instruction that comes from the Lord.

**6:1-4: Out of reverence for Christ, we practice the purpose of parenting.** → Paul ...! → Quote

- "You are teaching your kids to honor God. To say YES to Him." → Does my parenting reflect this?
  - Kids: Honor your parents! → You benefit w/long life... & practice in saying YES to God. → Exceptions
  - Parents: Don't provoke to anger... → Pick your battles (Jesus): Discipline & Instruction CONSISTENTLY.
  - Parent with Grown kids → Be the first to apologize. Respect your kids' decisions. PRAY. Intercede.
  - Grandparents → You are called to spoil your grandkids... → PRAY. Intercede.
- VISION: Mesa... can we be a church that models marriage? → Prayer

→ Transition: Out of reverence for Christ, we practice the purpose of parenting. So what about our boss?

5 Slaves, obey your earthly masters with deep respect and fear. Serve them sincerely as you would serve Christ. 6 Try to please them all the time, not just when they are watching you. As slaves of Christ, do the will of God with all your heart.

7 Work with enthusiasm, as though you were working for the Lord rather than for people. 8 Remember that the Lord will reward each one of us for the good we do, whether we are slaves or free.

9 Masters, treat your slaves in the same way. Don't threaten them; remember, you both have the same Master in heaven, and he has no favorites.

**6:5-9: Out of reverence for Christ, we ALL serve the Master.** → Paul does not legitimize slavery. → Piper Video

- **Slavery was a common practice in the Roman Empire: 1/3 population was enslaved**
  - Household slaves could gain great wealth & freedom (1 Cor. 7:21 - Get your freedom)...
  - If Masters/Slaves were to follow all of NT teachings on salvation, freedom, life in Christ, the relationship would be transformed into brothers and sisters as co-heirs of the promises of God, sitting at the same Table
  - Onesimus, saved to Philemon becomes bishop of Ephesus after Timothy.
  - William Wilburforce → Are my work place relationships TRANSFORMED?
- **Paul speaks into culture and the applications bring a breakthrough in our workplaces:**
  - Workers: Work for Jesus: respect, fear, sincerity, integrity, whole heartedly, enthusiastically = REWARD!  
→ Exceptions → Certain jobs have job descriptions! → I will always work on my birthday. → Tara works weekends.
  - Bosses: Lead like your a slave for Jesus... because God has no favorites! → Paul believes in slavery to Christ!
- Patrick, slave to the Irish elevated to SLAVE OF CHRIST to the Irish.

→ Transition: Read point. Reverence for Christ will bring breakthrough in every relationship.

→Reverence for Christ will bring breakthrough in every relationship in our lives!

→PRAYER: Father, help me to revere you SO MUCH...that all my relationships are TRANSFORMED!

### TALK ABOUT IT - Questions to GROW through with family, friends, & myself.

1. Do I have any dysfunctional relationships? What makes them dysfunctional?
2. Which area do I need a relational breakthrough: marriage, parenting, or work place?
3. What do I need to change to bring health back to that relationship? What is my responsibility?
4. What does reverence toward Christ have to do with any of this? How does this change my perspective?
5. **PRAYER:** "Father, help me to revere you so much ALL my relationships are transformed!"

### LINKS / RESOURCES:

- **Bible Project Ephesians Video:** <https://youtu.be/Y71r-T98E2Q>
- **Bible Project Philemon Video:** <https://youtu.be/aW9Q3Jt6Yvk>
- **Historical/Cultural Background to the Book of Ephesians:** <https://youtu.be/6FfIE2jS7-k>
- **Does the New Testament Legitimize Slavery?:** <https://www.desiringgod.org/labs/does-the-new-testament-legitimize-slavery>
- **Zondervan Academic, The Curse of Ham and Biblical Justifications for Slavery:** <https://zondervanacademic.com/blog/the-curse-of-ham-and-biblical-justifications-for-slavery>
- **Blog, Does the OT Expect us to Keep Slaves? By Alisa Childers:** <https://www.alisachilders.com/blog/does-the-old-testament-expect-us-to-keep-slaves>
- **Time Mag Article on Thomas Edison:** <https://time.com/3517011/thomas-edison/>
- **Map of Asia Minor (Modern Day Turkey)** where this letter would have been circulated:



### QUOTES / SONGS:

*"The electric light wasn't Thomas Edison's first invention, nor was he the first to create an alternative to gaslight. Electric lights already existed on a streetlight scale when, on this day in 1879, Edison tested the one he's famous for. Though he didn't come up with the whole concept, his light bulb was the first that proved practical, and affordable, for home illumination. The trick had been choosing a filament that would be durable but inexpensive, and the team at Edison's "invention factory" in Menlo Park, New Jersey, tested more than 6,000 possible materials before finding one that fit the bill: carbonized bamboo." - Jennifer Latson, Time Magazine, How Edison Invented the Light Bulb — And Lots of Myths About Himself*

*"There are no ordinary people. You have never talked to a mere mortal. Nations, cultures, arts, civilizations - these are mortal, and their life is to ours as the life of a gnat. But it is immortals whom we joke with, work with, marry, snub and exploit - immortal horrors or everlasting splendors." - CS Lewis, The Weight of Glory*

**SCRIPTURES: New Living Translation unless otherwise noted.**

**Ephesians 5:21-6:9, The Message**

21 Out of respect for Christ, be courteously reverent to one another.

22-24 Wives, understand and support your husbands in ways that show your support for Christ. The husband provides leadership to his wife the way Christ does to his church, not by domineering but by cherishing. So just as the church submits to Christ as he exercises such leadership, wives should likewise submit to their husbands.

25-28 Husbands, go all out in your love for your wives, exactly as Christ did for the church—a love marked by giving, not getting. Christ's love makes the church whole. His words evoke her beauty. Everything he does and says is designed to bring the best out of her, dressing her in dazzling white silk, radiant with holiness. And that is how husbands ought to love their wives. They're really doing themselves a favor—since they're already "one" in marriage.

29-33 No one abuses his own body, does he? No, he feeds and pampers it. That's how Christ treats us, the church, since we are part of his body. And this is why a man leaves father and mother and cherishes his wife. No longer two, they become "one flesh." This is a huge mystery, and I don't pretend to understand it all. What is clearest to me is the way Christ treats the church. And this provides a good picture of how each husband is to treat his wife, loving himself in loving her, and how each wife is to honor her husband.

6 1-3 Children, do what your parents tell you. This is only right. "Honor your father and mother" is the first commandment that has a promise attached to it, namely, "so you will live well and have a long life."

4 Fathers, don't frustrate your children with no-win scenarios. Take them by the hand and lead them in the way of the Master.

5-8 Servants, respectfully obey your earthly masters but always with an eye to obeying the real master, Christ. Don't just do what you have to do to get by, but work heartily, as Christ's servants doing what God wants you to do. And work with a smile on your face, always keeping in mind that no matter who happens to be giving the orders, you're really serving God. Good work will get you good pay from the Master, regardless of whether you are slave or free.

9 Masters, it's the same with you. No abuse, please, and no threats. You and your servants are both under the same Master in heaven. He makes no distinction between you and them.

**Galatians 3:26-29**

26 For you are all children of God through faith in Christ Jesus. 27 And all who have been united with Christ in baptism have put on Christ, like putting on new clothes. 28 **There is no longer Jew or Gentile, slave or free, male and female. For you are all one in Christ Jesus.** 29 And now that you belong to Christ, you are the true children of Abraham. You are his heirs, and God's promise to Abraham belongs to you.

**MESA VISION LINKS:**

- What is the Mesa Launch Team & how can I sign up? <https://mesa.church/launch>
- Who is Mesa? Click: [ID.Mission.Vision.Leadership Values](#)
- Where are we at with the building? Click: [NOW Initiative & Building Renovation](#)
- What is the vision of Mesa Church? Click: [Vision Sermons / Messages](#)
- Is there anything I can watch to be inspired? Click: [Grow Conference Main Sessions](#)

**MESA GROWTH LINKS:**

- How can I grow spiritually? Coming soon.
- How can I grow as a leader? Coming soon.
- What books would you recommend? Click: [Book Recommendations](#)
- Where are Jordan's Interviews? Click: [Talks with Jordan](#)

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