

Loving one another and Living with one another for the glory of God
Colossians 3;18-4;1 (slides)

Putting on the new self, or doing everything in the name of Jesus requires substantive change to the way you live.

The world we live in is incredibly selfish and pragmatic, and so are the rules the world is living by.

Pragmatism in the church often reveals itself through compromise.

Influence of Pragmatism in the church:

1. Minimized Doctrine
2. Elevated Methods
3. Prioritized Experience

it's wrong to move forward in ways that shallow the faith of the people, idolize preferences and methods, and prioritize the personal experience over the truth of the gospel and the glory of God.

The Bible never says that all women should be submissive to all men.

The Bible never condones slavery.

Christians love one another and live with one another for the glory of God

1. Marriage is defined by Jesus' relationship with the church.

Husbands uniquely love and live with their wives

How a husband loves his wife impacts both his and her relationship with God.

2. The Christian family operates for the glory of God and the good of each member

Father's are to raise and respond to their children in ways that encourage their faith and spiritual growth.

Christian parents discipline their children with the goal of impacting their hearts and leading them repentance and reconciliation.

Christian children please God when they love and trust their parents by obeying them.

3. Following Christ radically changes the way that we relate to one another

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“⁸ Accordingly, though I am bold enough in Christ to command you to do what is required, ⁹ yet for love’s sake I prefer to appeal to you—I, Paul, an old man and now a prisoner also for Christ Jesus— ¹⁰ I appeal to you for my child, Onesimus, whose father I became in my imprisonment. ¹¹ (Formerly he was useless to you, but now he is indeed useful to you and to me.) ¹² I am sending him back to you, sending my very heart. ¹³ I would have been glad to keep him with me, in order that he might serve me on your behalf during my imprisonment for the gospel, ¹⁴ but I preferred to do nothing without your consent in order that your goodness might not be by compulsion but of your own accord. ¹⁵ For this perhaps is why he was parted from you for a while, that you might have him back forever, ¹⁶ no longer as a bondservant but more than a bondservant, as a beloved brother—especially to me, but how much more to you, both in the flesh and in the Lord.” - Philemon 8–16 (ESV)

Following Jesus changes the very nature of our relationships with one another, we become brothers and sisters.

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Christianity doesn’t teach that we go to heaven because we kept all the rules. But, Christianity does teach that those who are going to heaven are called to live by a new set of rules.