

Talk it Over: Perfect Family **September 1 & 2, 2023**

Key Scriptures

Ephesians 6:1-4

John 3:3-5

Romans 5:6

Key Thought

Jesus introduced a new concept to the world: mutual submission.

Start Thinking

Jesus taught about a higher love, a greater love. His love was about serving others.

Start Talking

How does the world perceive the word submission?

Start Sharing

1. Jesus set ideal standards that we are called to aim for in our lives. Look at the sermon on the mount (Matthew 5-7). What ideals seem challenging?

2. The instructions in Ephesians given by Paul come from the principle of mutual submission that Jesus introduced to the world.

-Husbands, love your wives and be considerate.

-Wives, submit to your husbands.

-Children, obey your parents.

-Fathers, don't irritate your kids.

How does knowing that Jesus requires mutual submission change the way you feel about these commands?

3. Read John 3:3-5 & Romans 5:6. What can we learn about God through Jesus in these verses?

4. Read Ephesians 5:21. How hard would it be to submit to one another out of reverence for each other? What does your reverence for Christ inspire (make you think, feel, do?)

5. Share time when someone came alongside you and got under your burden.

6. "What can I do to help?" If you asked this one question regularly to others, how might it affect your relationships?

7. What is your barrier to asking this question?

Start Praying

Jesus, you gave everything for us. Thank modeling submission to us. Give us courage to leverage what we have and who we are to ask how we can help in our families and in our relationships. Let us submit to others out of reverence for you because that's what love does. And let us start with our families. This is the call, and it may just be the most important thing we do in our walk with you. Thank you for your ideal standards Jesus and your grace that covers our shortcomings! ~Amen

Start Doing

What would it look like to throw the door open to using your time, talents, and resources to make yourself available to someone else this week? What relationship in your life needs this the most right now?