

sermon notes

July 26, 2026 | Pastor Tony Caffey, Messiah Bible Church | **Preeminence**
“Worshipping Christ in the Family and in the Workplace” | **Colossians 3:18-4:1**

- 1) Christian families should be _____ properly
(3:18–21)

- 2) Christian work should be _____
(3:22–25)

- 3) Christian masters should be _____ of their
heavenly Master (4:1)

Questions for Further Application of God’s Word:

GO DEEPER

Read Colossians 3:18–4:1. How many times is “the Lord” mentioned in this passage? What is the significance of Paul’s repeated references to the Lord? How do Paul’s statements transform these household duties from mere obligations into acts of worship?

Why is it important for Christians to have a properly ordered family? What happens when a Christian family isn’t properly ordered? How can our responsibilities as husbands, wives, parents, children, employees, and employers be viewed as opportunities to worship God?

What causes women to reject the leadership of their husbands? What causes men to fail to love their wives? What causes children to disobey? What causes fathers to provoke their children? What causes employees to rebel against their employers? What causes employers to mistreat their workers? Is there a common thread that runs through all of these?

GET PERSONAL

How is the Lord to be the center of the husband-wife relationship? How is the Lord to be the center of the parent-child relationship? Why is a child’s obedience to his or her parents pleasing to the Lord? Why should children obey their parents? How is obedience to parents part of a child’s obligation to Christ? Should parents insist that their children obey?

What are some practical ways that a woman can demonstrate loving submission to her husband? What are some ways a husband can demonstrate Christ-imitating love to his wife? Why is the concept of submission so challenging in our culture today? What obstacles must women overcome in order to fulfill the biblical guidelines for marriage? If a man truly seeks to love his wife as Christ loves the church, how might that affect her desire to submit to his leadership?

Read Colossians 3:23 and assess your work habits. Do you work wholeheartedly for the Lord? What does a hardworking Christian communicate to employers and coworkers in the workplace? Is our work an aspect of worship?

ADVANCED QUESTIONS FOR DEEPER STUDY

Paul addresses the issue of slaves and masters several times in Colossians and elsewhere in the NT. Does the Apostle Paul give tacit approval to slavery in his writings? Does the Bible give tacit approval to slavery? Why didn’t Paul work to abolish the practice of slavery in his day? For help with this question, see John Piper’s article on “How Paul Worked to Overcome Slavery,” accessed at <http://www.desiringgod.org/articles/how-paul-worked-to-overcome-slavery>