

**EVERYTHING YOU NEED**  
**A STUDY OF EPHESIANS**  
**#11: MAKING JESUS LORD OF YOUR RELATIONSHIPS**  
**EPHESIANS 6:1-9**  
**JIM HINTON**



## **I. THE IMPORTANCE OF GOOD RELATIONSHIPS IN LIFE**

Studies by Stanford, Harvard, and The Carnegie Institute found that only 15% of people's success on the job has to do with technical knowledge or skill. The other 85% of their success was based on how well they are able to get along with people

The most important single ingredient in the formula of success is knowing how to get along with people.

Theodore Roosevelt

The ability to deal with people is as purchasable a commodity as sugar or coffee and I will pay more for that ability than for any other under the sun.

John D. Rockefeller

## **II. A SIMPLE OUTLINE OF EPHESIANS**

- I. My position—What God has done (Chapters 1-3)
- II. My practice—What I must do (Chapters 4-6)

## **III. MAKING JESUS LORD OF MY RELATIONSHIPS – EPHESIANS 6:1-9**

### **1. Christian children (v.1-3)**

**Treat my parents like I would treat Jesus**

- Obey your parents “in the Lord” (v.1a)

...We must obey God rather than any human authority.

Acts 5:29 (NLT)

- Obedience is right (v.1b)

- **Obedience is commanded (v.2)**

You should know this, Timothy, that in the last days there will be very difficult times. For people will love only themselves and their money. They will be boastful and proud, scoffing at God, disobedient to their parents, and ungrateful. They will consider nothing sacred. They will be unloving and unforgiving; they will slander others and have no self-control. They will be cruel and hate what is good. They will betray their friends, be reckless, be puffed up with pride, and love pleasure rather than God.

2 Timothy 3:1-2 (NLT)

- **Obedience results in blessing (v.3)**

## **2. Christian fathers (v.4)**

**Treat my children as I would treat Jesus**

- **I must not exasperate my children**
- **I must train and instruct them in the Lord**

## **3. Christian employees (v.5-8)**

**Treat my boss as I would treat Jesus**

- **Be respectful (v.5)**
- **Be honest (v.6-7)**
- **Be rewarded (v.8)**

## **AN OVERVIEW OF SLAVERY IN ANCIENT TIMES**

⇒ **Slavery was a fact in the ancient world**

⇒ **Slavery was often different than we understand it**

**Kinds of slavery addressed in this scripture:**

**1) Judicial slavery**

**2) Indentured servitude**

### 3) Conquered peoples

⇒ **Why didn't the New Testament overtly condemn slavery?**

- **The New Testament does subtly – but clearly – condemn slavery by promoting love and equality for all people**

You were all baptized into Christ, and so you were all clothed with Christ. This means that you are all children of God through faith in Christ Jesus. In Christ, there is no difference between Jew and Greek, slave and free person, male and female. You are all the same in Christ Jesus. You belong to Christ, so you are Abraham's descendants. You will inherit all of God's blessings because of the promise God made to Abraham.

Galatians 3:26-30 (NCV)

- **Any attempt by the church to forcibly overthrow the institution of slavery would have been crushed by the Roman Empire**
- **This passage and most New Testament scriptures give practical counsel about how to best manage the reality of a situation as it existed – and at the time - for most people - could not be changed**
- **However, Paul did specifically condemn slave traders in 1 Timothy 1:10 and also said this...**

Were you a slave when you were called? That shouldn't bother you. However, if you have a chance to become free, take it.

1 Corinthians 7:21 (GWT)

God paid a great price for you. So don't become slaves of anyone else.

1 Corinthians 7:23 (CEV)

- **Eventually Christ did destroy slavery by transforming hearts**

There are some things which cannot happen quickly; there are some situations in which the leaven has to work and in which haste is the surest way to delay the desired end. The leaven of Christianity had to work in the world for many generations before the abolition of slavery became a practical possibility. The New Testament writers were concerned that Christian slaves should not demonstrate to the world that their Christianity did not make them disgruntled rebels - but rather workmen who had found a new inspiration towards doing an honest day's work. It will still often happen that, when some situation cannot be changed, the Christian duty is to be Christian within that situation and to accept what cannot be changed until the leaven has worked.

William Barclay

#### **4. Christian employers (v.9)**

**Treat my employees as I would treat Jesus**

- **Treat them kindness**
- **Treatment with fairness**