

# FAMILY FORWARD

*vision and values for your home*

## **FAMILY FORWARD**

Riverside Church of Christ :: 5/2/21 :: Forward in our Relationships  
Text: Ephesians 5.21-6.9

**Summary:** Life can be hard sometimes. Family life can be hard sometimes. We live in a world that doesn't make life easy for marriages. We live in a world where our family lives have never been busier. Where our kids have never been under so much pressure to succeed. Add to that, for some reason we are often hardest on those we love the most. For all of those reasons and more these relationships that mean the most can often be the most difficult relationships to sustain. But God has a vision for your marriage. God has a vision for your kids. And His desire is for your family to thrive, to flourish, and to share the love that He has given us with each other. But it all begins with understanding God's vision for our family relationships and the values that He wants us to build our lives upon.

**Bottom Line:** Practice being the manifest presence of Jesus to each other.

### **Home Group Questions:**

1. Haven't you ever gotten your car stuck before? What happened? How did you get it unstuck?
2. How do we sometimes get stuck in our relationships? In our marriages? With our kids? How do we get unstuck?
3. Read Ephesians 5.21-33. What is the headline statement in verse 21 that Paul places above this section for families?
4. What does Paul teach us about what Holy Spirit guided relationships look like between husbands and wives?
5. Why is the idea of mutual submission so important to living out the Christ life in our most important relationships?
6. Read Ephesians 6.1-4. What does Paul teach us here about family relationships for followers of Jesus?
7. Why is it important for our families to remember that: Jesus is Lord, the Holy is our Helper, and the church is our village? How have those three ideas helped and shaped your marriage/family?
8. Close by praying that God will help us move forward in our family relationships by "submitting to one another out of reverence for Christ."