

Living in Christ

Transformed Daily Relationships

OPENER

This passage encourages us to align our attitudes and actions with the character of Christ, resulting in healthier and more fulfilling relationships. What relationship in your life is going well? What relationship in your life needs to improve? Share your thoughts.

SUNDAY MESSAGE NOTES

Knowing Jesus is transformational. Just as Paul, who was imprisoned for speaking about Jesus, was transformed by “Christ in him” and reached out in love to encourage the believers in Colossae, in the same way, the “Christ in you” principle can transform our attitude and approach to our daily relationships.

How the Lord Jesus transforms our key daily relationships.

1. How Jesus transforms our _____.
2. How Jesus transforms our _____.
3. How Jesus transforms our _____.

Work Principle 1: I will do what my boss says because I revere the Lord Jesus.

Work Principle 2: I will be wholeheartedly motivated to work for the Lord (not just my human boss).

Work Principle 3: In serving Christ at work, I know that there is a great inheritance for me.

Work Principle 4: I will use the power I have to treat people rightly and fairly.

Discussion Questions

1. In Colossians 3:18-19, Paul addresses the relationship between husbands and wives. How can our submission to Christ impact our marriage relationship positively? How does Christ's sacrificial love serve as a model for husbands (see Ephesians 5:25)? How does “Christ in you” transform how you approach your marriage?
2. The passage goes on to discuss parent-child relationships in Colossians 3:20-21. How does our submission to Christ influence our parenting approach? How can we nurture our children's faith and lead them toward a godly life? Why is it so critical in parenting to encourage and not to “embitter” our children? What needs to improve in your relationship with your kids?

3. Read Colossians 3:22-4:1. What is God's will for our work relationships? (This portion addresses the cultural reality of slaves and masters in ancient Rome but can be applied to our approach to work, today.) How can our relationship with Jesus affect our work ethic and interactions with our superiors? How does the character of Christ affect how we approach a relationship with a subordinate at work?
4. According to Colossians 3:23-24, our work should be done as if we are working for the Lord, not merely for human masters. How can this perspective change our attitude towards work? How can we find fulfillment and purpose in our jobs through our relationship with Jesus?
5. Colossians 3:25 warns against wrong actions and unfair treatment, emphasizing that we will be held accountable before the Lord. How does the awareness of being accountable to Christ influence our behavior in our marriages, families, and workplaces? How can we demonstrate integrity and righteousness in all areas of our lives?

Responding to God's Word

Read Colossians 4:2-6. We are to be devoted to prayer and live wisely toward outsiders. How can consistent prayer and seeking God's wisdom enhance our relationships with our spouse, children, colleagues, and those outside the faith? Share practical ways to incorporate prayer and wisdom into our daily lives.

Meditate and Pray

And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him. Colossians 3:17

Time Alone With God Reading Guide

Day 1: Ephesians 5:6-9

Day 2: Philemon 1

Day 3: 1 Timothy 5:8;

Day 4: Psalm 90:17

Day 5: Proverbs 6:10-12;

Day 6: Proverbs 16:3

Day 7: Proverbs 12:11,24; 14:23