

COLOSSIANS

ABOVE ALL



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Paul writes to the church at Colossae to show that Jesus Christ is greater than Caesar and what they already have in Christ Jesus is sufficient and supreme. Jesus truly is above all other rulers. His kingdom reign is above all governments. His work is above all other accomplishments. And all who are in Christ can live a life above all that the world offers. And that greater life can be experienced and expressed in everything we do, everywhere, every day.

PART 8: LIFE IN THE FAMILY

Read the text: Colossians 3:18-21

Wives, submit to your husbands, as is fitting in the Lord. Husbands, love your wives, and do not be harsh with them. Children, obey your parents in everything, for this pleases the Lord. Fathers, do not provoke your children, lest they become discouraged.

In light of their new identity in Christ and union with Him, Paul calls the Colossians to now live out this identity in all of life, starting with their family relationships. The Gospel shapes how husbands and wives relate and how parents and children relate to one another.

Discussion Questions:

These questions are written for DNA groups, but you can use them in any setting, including missional communities. Because they were written for the intimacy of DNA friendships, you may need to adjust for larger groups.

1. Marriage is meant to be a picture of the Gospel, specifically of Jesus' love for his bride, the Church. How did God design

marriage to function, according to this passage, and reflect Gospel realities?

2. If you're married, how is your marriage currently reflecting the Gospel? How is it not reflecting the Gospel when it comes to the areas of selfless, sacrificial submission and selfless, sacrificial love? Be honest and specific.
3. If you're not married, where has God called you to love others selflessly and sacrificially like Jesus loves you? How is that going?
4. Where do you see your own selfishness most often show up these relationships?
5. How does the love of Jesus for you change how you're able to love others, like a spouse, selflessly? Has it really changed you? Have you received His love for you?