

## God's Divine Design (part 2)

Eph 6:1-9

**Big Idea:** Relationships work best when we submit ourselves to the Lord and follow His divine design.

### Children & Parents

#### Children 1-3

*Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right.* <sup>2</sup> *"Honor your father and mother" (this is the first commandment with a promise),* <sup>3</sup> *"that it may go well with you and that you may live long in the land."* <sup>4</sup> *Fathers, do not provoke your children to anger, but bring them up in the discipline and instruction of the Lord.* Eph. 6:1-4 ESV.

In the Lord

This is right

*"Honor your father and mother"*

*"this is the first commandment with a promise"*, numerous possibilities one seems best is that he is using first in the sense of primary commandment related to children that has a promise attached.

#### Fathers 4

<sup>4</sup>*Fathers, do not provoke your children to anger, but bring them up in the discipline and instruction of the Lord.* Eph. 6:1-4 ESV.

Don't provoke to anger

Bring them up

Discipline

Instruction

## **Slaves & Masters**

### **Slaves 5-8**

<sup>5</sup> *Slaves, obey your earthly masters with fear and trembling, with a sincere heart, as you would Christ, <sup>6</sup>not by the way of eye-service, as people-pleasers, but as servants of Christ, doing the will of God from the heart, <sup>7</sup>rendering service with a good will as to the Lord and not to man, <sup>8</sup>knowing that whatever good anyone does, this he will receive back from the Lord, whether he is a slave or free.* Eph. 6:5-8 ESV

Repetition of Christ/Lord

Fear & trembling

Obey in singleness of heart

Not offering eye-service as men-pleasers

The Lord is the judge

### **Masters 9**

<sup>9</sup>*Masters, do the same to them, and stop your threatening, knowing that he who is both their Master and yours is in heaven, and that there is no partiality with him.* Eph. 6:9 ESV

Do the same to them

Stop threatening

*Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for human masters, since you know that you will receive an inheritance from the Lord as a reward. It is the Lord Christ you are serving.* Col 3:23-24 NIV

## **Principles**

We as believers should be known for our hard work

A boss/ manager should treat employees with fairness & respect

## **Application**

All are equal/valuable in the lord's eyes.

*Society sends signals that declare our relative value and tell us where we fit in the hierarchy, but this text gives a different system of valuing. The hierarchy does not exist. We all have roles and tasks, but they do not render people more or less valuable. We all have the same Lord and face the same judgment. Arrogance and feelings of inferiority are out of place... (NIV application commentary)*

It is not about me, it is about submitting to and pleasing the Lord in all that I do.

*Am I willfully and joyfully submitting myself to the Lord and following His plan for my relationships?*

*If not, what is holding me back from living for Him as my audience of one?*