



## The Mission of Submission

Ephesians 5:21-6:9

Understanding the Family Unit in the Roman Empire. . .

- “patria potestas”
- Removing our twenty-first century glasses

### Unpacking Ephesians 5:22-6:9

**A) Wives & Husbands (5:22-33):**

**B) Children & Parents (6:1-4):**

**C) Bondservants & Masters (6:5-9):**

### The Mission of Submission

#### LifeGroup Discussion Questions:

1. Paul begins this section with the command in Ephesians 5:21 to “submit to one another out of reverence for Christ.”  
**How does this verse shape the way we should understand the rest of the passage?**
2. In the Greco-Roman world, the household was governed by the authority of the father and influenced by ideas from philosophers like Aristotle.  
**How does understanding the cultural context of Paul’s time change the way you read this passage?**
3. Paul calls husbands to love their wives “as Christ loved the church.”  
**What does Christ’s sacrificial love teach us about how marriage should function?**
4. Paul instructs fathers not to provoke their children to anger but to raise them in the “training and instruction of the Lord.”  
**What are some practical ways parents or mentors can nurture spiritual growth in the next generation?**
5. Paul tells bondservants to work “as if you were serving the Lord.”  
**How might viewing our work as service to Christ change our attitude toward our jobs, responsibilities, or daily tasks?**
6. Jesus redefined power through humility and sacrifice.  
**What are some practical ways we can practice Christ-like humility and submission in our everyday relationships?**