

Week 40: How to live in our earth family and church family

Colossians 3:18-4:18

New International Reader's Version (NIRV)

How to Live in Your Earth Family

¹⁸ **Wives**, follow the lead of your husbands. That's what the Lord wants you to do.

¹⁹ **Husbands**, love your wives. Don't be mean to them.

²⁰ **Children**, obey your parents in everything. That pleases the Lord.

²¹ **Fathers**, don't make your children bitter. If you do, they will lose hope.

²² **Slaves**, obey your earthly masters in everything. Don't do it just to please them when they are watching you. Obey them with an honest heart. Do it out of respect for the Lord.

For Slaves and for Everyone:

²³ Work at everything you do with all your heart. Work as if you were working for the Lord, not for human masters. ²⁴ Work because you know that you will finally receive as a reward what the Lord wants you to have. You are serving the Lord Christ.

²⁵ Anyone who does wrong will be paid back for what he does. God treats everyone the same.

4 Masters, give your slaves what is right and fair. Do it because you know that you also have a Master in heaven.

How to Live in God's Family

² Spend a lot of time in prayer.

- Always be watchful and thankful.
- ³ Pray for us too.
- Pray that God will open a door for our message. Then we can preach the mystery of Christ. Because I preached it, I am being held by chains.
- ⁴ Pray that I will preach it clearly, as I should.

In Actions: ⁵ Be wise in the way you act toward outsiders. Make the most of every opportunity.

In Words ⁶ Let the words you speak always be full of grace. Season them with salt. Then you will know how to answer everyone.