

# COLOSSIANS: JESUS+

PAUL'S LETTER TO THE CHURCH OF COLOSSE

Part 8: Family Ties

Pastor Grant Fishbook  
April 20 & 21, 2013

## Before we hit the hard stuff:

Everyone lives his or her life under some authority structure.

Everyone lives both *under* and *in* authority within his or her relationships.

Before you can be *in* authority, you must be *under* authority.

God models submission and authority within the Trinity:  
Perfect relationship within the context of submission

Difference of role does not mean inequality of worth.

God is asking us to do what He has already done.

A humble vertical relationship produces healthy horizontal relationships.

## The hard stuff: Colossians 3:18-4:1

<sup>18</sup> Wives, submit yourselves to your husbands, as is fitting in the Lord.

<sup>19</sup> Husbands, love your wives and do not be harsh with them.

<sup>20</sup> Children, obey your parents in everything, for this pleases the Lord.

<sup>21</sup> Fathers, do not embitter your children, or they will become discouraged.

<sup>22</sup> Slaves, obey your earthly masters in everything; and do it, not only when their eye is on you and to curry their favor, but with sincerity

of heart and reverence for the Lord.

<sup>23</sup> Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for human masters, <sup>24</sup> since you know that you will receive an inheritance from the Lord as a reward. It is the Lord Christ you are serving. <sup>25</sup> Anyone who does wrong will be repaid for their wrongs, and there is no favoritism.

<sup>4:1</sup> Masters, provide your slaves with what is right and fair, because you know that you also have a Master in heaven.

(Continues on back)

## Why are these truths hard?

Because we are naturally bent to respond, “You are not the boss of me!”

## What does God call us to?

Willfully declaring: Jesus, you are the boss of me.

## Next Steps

FOR MEN

### Band of Brothers • Tuesday Evenings • 6:00–9:00 PM in Fun Zones

Band of Brothers is an honest and trusting place for men to lean on each other and learn solid biblical principles to become men of honor, self-discipline and dependence on God. Every week, guys do the hard work of being accountable to each other and encouraging each other to grow in character and Christ-likeness. Includes a free dinner. *Learn more at [bellinghambob.org](http://bellinghambob.org).*

FOR WOMEN

### Squadron of Sisters • Thursday Evenings, 7:00–8:30 PM in Room 216

Squadron of Sisters strives to reveal God’s amazing plan for women to become beautiful, confident, fulfilled wives who breathe life into their marriages. *Learn more at [squadronofsisters.com](http://squadronofsisters.com).*

FOR COUPLES

### Sacred Marriage Workshop with Gary Thomas • June 22 at CTK

Save the date and plan to attend the *Sacred Marriage Workshop* with Gary Thomas. *More details to come.*

### Marriage Mentoring

Participate in Marriage Mentoring to work on your own marriage or to help another couple. *For more information, visit [ctkbellingham.com/marriage](http://ctkbellingham.com/marriage).*

## Small Group Questions

- 1) What are your plans for the summer?
- 2) What is your first response to the word “submission”?
- 3) In what areas of your life are you a boss? (Work, home, etc.) In what areas of your life are you not the boss? (School, work, etc.) What have you learned about yourself in both areas?
- 4) Do you agree or disagree with the statement, “Humble vertical relationships produce healthy horizontal relationships.” Why?
- 5) In what relationship is the concept of submission the most difficult for you? Be careful not to solely focus on human relationships.
- 6) What do you need prayer for today?

**OUR  
MISSION**

To create an authentic Christian community that effectively reaches out to unchurched people in love, acceptance and forgiveness so that they may experience the joy of salvation and a purposeful life of discipleship.