

Family with Jesus in Charge

Colossians 3:18-21

A. Wives who seek God's will (3:18)

- Subject: "wives"
- Instruction: "submit to your own husbands"
- Reason: "as is fitting in the Lord"

B. Husbands who seek God's will (3:19)

- Subject: "husbands"
- Instruction: "love your wives"
- Clarification: "and do not be bitter toward them"

Key Scriptures on Marriage:

- Genesis 2:18-25 – *the first marriage*
- Genesis 3:16 – *marriage conflict in the curse*
- Ephesians 5:22-33 – *reflecting Christ*
- Colossians 3:18-19 – *as is fitting for saints*
- 1 Peter 3:1-7 – *in submitting to God's will*
- Hebrews 13:4 – *the honorable option*
- Psalm 127 – *the Lord must build it*
- Matt. 5:27-32 – *Jesus on faithfulness*
- Matt. 19:1-12 – *Jesus on divorce*
- 1 Cor. 7 – *faithfulness matters*
- Proverbs 5:18; 12:4; 18:22; 19:13-14; 21:9; 21:19; 25:24; 27:15; 31:10-31
- The Song of Solomon – *a poetic praise of the love in marriage*

C. Children who seek God's will (3:20)

- Subject: "children"
- Instruction: "obey your parents in all things"
- Reason: "for this is well-pleasing to the Lord"

D. Fathers who seek God's will (3:21)

- Subject: "fathers"
- Instruction: "do not provoke your children"
- Reason: "lest they become discouraged"

Key Scriptures on training children:

- Genesis 2:24 – *the priority of marriage*
- Ephesians 6:1-4 – *this is right*
- Colossians 3:20-21 – *as is fitting for saints*
- Psalm 127 – *children as a blessing from God*
- Proverbs ch. 1-9 – *wisdom worth passing on to children*
- Proverbs 1:8-9; 13:24; 19:18; 20:7; 22:6; 23:13-14 – *the value of training*
- Proverbs 6:20-23; 12:1; 13:1; 19:25-26 – *the value of listening*