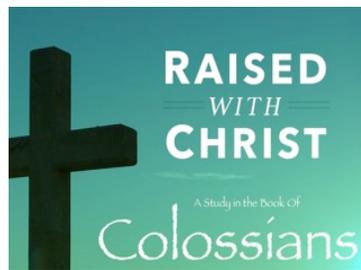


“Raised with Christ!”



Part 8: “The hardest thing about the hardest thing!”

Colossians 3:18-25, 4:1

Introduction: The hardest thing - relationships with other people !

God has given us His Word and His Spirit to help us build relationships that will last.

Starting point: Desiring to live in relationship with others in a way that pleases God .

If you want to have a happy Father’s Day you need to be not only hearers of the Word, but doers !

Being raised with Christ enables and empowers believers to build Christ-centered relationships that adorn the Gospel.

I. How to develop a Christ-centered marriage: Verses 18-19 ...

Biblical submission is not slavery to a tyrant, but rather, willing and cheerful service .

Mutual love and service is the calling of every person who is a disciple of Jesus.

A Christ - centered marriage is God’s chosen picture to adorn the Gospel, to display to the world what true LOVE really looks like.

This is much more than external rules , this is about your heart , and having a marriage that is pleasing to the Lord !

I Peter 3:1,7 ... Men and women have been created by God as equals , but as different in order to complement each other.

Father’s Day is a good time to talk about the enormous responsibility God has given to men to lead their wives and families to follow Christ.

II. How to develop a Christ-centered family: Verses 20-21 ...

God addresses the two main problems that arise in families: disobedience and rebellion from children , and a tyrannical rule by fathers .

Colossians 3:20: “Children, obey your parents in everything, for this pleases the Lord !”

Teaching children to obey begins when they are young ... and it must include teaching them WHY to obey.

Having a Christ-centered family means that children must be taught about sin and God’s remedy for sin in Jesus Christ.

Ephesians 6:4: “Fathers, do not provoke your children to anger, but bring them up in the discipline and instruction of the Lord!”

MEN, if you are a follower of Jesus Christ you are called to be the chief disciple - maker in your home.

The world NEEDS Christ-centered husbands and fathers , and your family NEEDS a Christ-centered leader !!

III. How to develop a Christ-centered work environment: Verses 22-24, 4:1 ...

Colossians 3:23-24: “ ... work heartily, as for the Lord and not for men ... You are serving the Lord Christ .”

Philippians 2:14-16: “Do all things without grumbling or disputing ... among whom you shine as lights in the world, holding fast to the word of life ...”

Human nature cannot and will not serve others apart from the work of the Holy Spirit.

Creating a Christ-centered workplace begins with one person ... let that person be YOU!!

How many opportunities to testify are lost because of the wrong attitude in the workplace?

Being raised with Christ enables and empowers believers to build Christ-centered relationships that adorn the Gospel.