

LESSONS THIS QUARTER

- 1) 05 Sep Eph 1:1-14 God’s Plan is Eternal
- 2) 12 Sep Eph 1:15-23 God’s Plan Involves Power
- 3) 19 Sept Eph 2:1-10 God’s Power Changes People
- 4) 26 Sep Eph 2:11-22 ... God’s Power Changes Relationships
- 5) 03 Oct Eph 3:1-13 God’s Power Comes by Grace
- 6) 10 Oct Eph 3:14-21 God’s Power Provides Strength
- 7) 17 Oct Eph 4:1-16 Being in Step
- 8) 24 Oct Eph 4:17-32 Being Different
- 9) 31 Oct Eph 5:1-14 Being Pure
- 10) 07 Nov Eph 5:15-21 Being Careful
- 11) 14 Nov Eph 5:22-33 Being Married
- 12) 21 Nov Eph 6:1-9 **Being Respectful**
- 13) 28 Nov Eph 6:10-24 Being Prepared

INTRODUCTION

- **We must show respect of children, of parents, of employers and workers (close personal relationships)**
- **What is Respect?**
 - ♦ Accepting, caring, non-discriminatory behavior
 - ♦ Give honor or esteem (‘think more highly of others’)
- But what if they are ornery, obstinate, smelly, rude, crude and socially unacceptable or just downright wicked?
- Can we / should we still give respect to difficult people?
 - ♦ Foolish and wicked behavior are the exceptions
 - We are to avoid those who are divisive
 - We are to contend with the wicked
 - We are to discipline a wayward child
 - We should cut off fellowship with a wicked Christian
 - We should not feed those who don’t want to work
- Was Jesus disrespectful to His mom & dad when He chose to stay behind in Jerusalem at age 12? Luke 2:42-52
- Was Jesus disrespectful to the Greek woman looking for a healing by giving her the silent treatment?..... Mat 15:22-28
- Was Jesus disrespectful to the Scribes and Pharisees for calling them vipers & hypocrites?..... Mat 3:7

Passage	Comments
	formed a political action committee to change bad laws or practices of a government <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Christianity works best when we pursue changing lives at the bottom of the food chain • For a modern application – slaves are employees • We should “fearfully tremble” at our employers – in other words give them due respect and honor • We may not like their treatment of us at times, but God wants us to be honest hard workers • No selfishness or only working hard when being watched, but diligent even when not watched • v8 – Motivating verse – We will be rewarded for doing good to our masters even when ill treated Does this passage do away with labor unions?
6:9	Masters – Consider Welfare of Your Workforce <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Paul can only appeal to Christian masters or employers – to be considerate of subordinates • The master’s motivation is godly punishment if they opt to mistreat/threaten their subordinates

CONCLUSION/APPLICATIONS:

- Whether one is a family or friend, young or old, male or female, a superior or subordinate, we should respect them – be accepting of them, honor them, show concern for them – but wicked behavior justifies other courses of action
- If an ornery person is in a position of authority (government official, parent, teacher, police, preacher, elder, deacon, boss) we do as they say do but not as they do do... Mat 23:1-3

SUPPORTING PASSAGES:

Gen 2:16-17 And the LORD God commanded the man, saying, "Of every tree of the garden you may freely eat; but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall surely die."

NEXT WEEK: Ephesians 6:10-24. Paul explains the big picture that we are in a spiritual warfare – and we must put on spiritual armor, be armed and ready to fight

Passage	Comments
Eph 6:1-3	Children – Obey & Honor Mom & Dad <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • First commandment with a promise? Which one? • The very first command explicitly given to Man with a promise attached to it was “Don’t eat from the Tree of Life – or you will die” Gen 2:16-17 - Did God’s children obey their Heavenly Father? • Should children obey in everything? • Can kids be honorable but not obedient?.....How? • Can kids be obedient but not honorable?.....How? • Consider the man who had 2 sons, one said “NO” but went into the field and the other said “YES”, but did not go to the field – which son was obedient and honorable in the end? Mat 21:28-31
6:4	Fathers – Consider your child’s wellbeing <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • When fathers go too far in their teasing or disciplining or indifference they can frustrate & anger their kids so bad they warp them • Instead we need to train them to love God and to cherish God’s word and His ways • ... we don’t just tell them, we show them by example – we live the godly life in word, deed and thought
6:5-8	Servants/Employees – Work Hard & Honestly <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Slavery is prevalent throughout man’s history • Neither Jesus, nor Paul, or other Apostles ever



"Apparently, they possess detailed knowledge of our most intimate woodland behavior and use it against us when we are at our most vulnerable."