

PRINCIPLES FOR CHRIST-CENTERED RELATIONSHIPS

Colossians 3:18 – 4:1

Introduction:

According to A.W. Tozer, “The goal of every Christian should be to live in a state of unbroken worship” and the Christ-Centered person finds this a delightful goal. To be Christ-Centered is “Whatsoever ye do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus (Col 3:17).

- As Christians we must remember that we are defined by our relationships which tells who we are, whose we are and what is expected of us. Also, our relationships define where we have been, where we are and where we are going. In the final analysis, when all is said and done, the only relationship that defines who we genuinely are, is our relationship with God.

I. Christ-Centered Marriage Relationships (vv. 18-19)

- A. Christian wives submit to your own husbands** (v. 18a)
- B. Christian husbands – Love your wives** (v. 19a)
- C. Christian husbands – Do not be bitter against your wives** (v. 19b)

II. Christ-Centered Parenting Relationships (vv. 20-21)

- A. Christian Children – Obey your Parents** (v. 20)
- B. Fathers – Do not provoke your children to anger** (v. 21a)
- C. Provoking children leads to discouragement** (v. 21b)
- D. Bring them (children) up in the training and admonition of the Lord.**

III. Christ-Centered Work Relationships (vv. 22 – 4:1)

Christians are to apply Biblical principles in their work relationships.

- A. Christian workers – Obey you Supervisor/Manager** (vv. 22-25)
- B. Christian supervisors – take care of your workers** (Col 4:1a)
 - **The Golden Rule for work relationships** – Be the worker you want to have if you were the supervisor and be the supervisor you want to have if you were the worker.

Conclusion:

A. Keep Christ at the center of your relationships

B. Principles of Christ-Centered Relationships

- Christian wives- submit to your husbands
- Christian husbands – love your wives
- Christian children – obey your parents
- Christian father – do not provoke your children to anger
- Christian workers – obey your supervisors
- Christian supervisors – take care of your workers

C. Romans Road (Rom 3:10, 23; 5:8; 10:9, 13)

From the Preaching Ministry of:
Pastor Carl Bennett
Corinth Christian Fellowship
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“... the word of our God shall stand for ever (Isa 40:8).