

Love in Every Area of Life

Pastor Paul Springer | Ephesians 6:1-9
May 6, 2018 | Spring Cycle: Week 4 of 10

Personal Connection (25 minutes)

Icebreaker

If you watch any reality TV shows, how often do you think to yourself, “If that was me, I would do that differently”?

Sharing Christ and Praying for Each Other

How is your relationship with Christ going? Are you wrestling with any important decisions he is leading you to? Are you struggling to make a decision?

Pray for the group, particularly for obedience in following and faithfully seeking to be shaped into the image of Christ.

Review Last Sunday's *What Now?*

Please pray that the Lord would resolve any misgivings or hurts you may have in regard to having a Biblical marriage, or wishing you had a Biblical marriage. Please pray, no matter whether you are married or single, that the Lord would reveal to you how you can better strengthen your brothers and sisters in Christ, the bride for whom our Lord lovingly sacrificed himself.

Digging Deeper (30 minutes)

This Week's Key Concept:

It is a changed and open heart that inspires us to love others as Christ first loved us.

Read Ephesians 6:1-9

Q1. What is the difference, if any, between obeying your parents and honoring your parents?

Q2. Why is this command, to honor your father and mother, important?

Q3. How can we model Christ's love to children and youth, even when they are disobedient and unpleasant?

Q4. Do you find that your parenting style is much different than that of your own parents? What did they do well?

Q5. Do you find it difficult to work hard when you think nobody is watching or if you're not getting any credit for your hard work? Why is it important to the Lord, that we do our best at our work?

Q6. As a believer in Christ, do you find it more challenging to serve others in your place of employment or to lead others with integrity? **Note: we are called to do both.*

Impact Questions

Q1. Whether your leadership role is in the home, at work, or any other place, how does leaning on the Lord's wisdom and love help you to accomplish more than if you did it on your own?

Q2. Do you think it is easy for a child to submit to their parents and to Christ if their curiosity, questions, and concerns aren't listened to as being important or valuable? Why is it important as a parent, to lovingly listen to your children?

Q3. If you had your own reality TV show showcasing your daily life, would viewers *overall*, see Christ in you? In what ways would you like to see improvement? *Note: we aren't called to be perfect but to model the One who is perfect.*

Q4. Would you do your job differently or behave differently if Jesus was your immediate supervisor? How so? *Note: no matter who you work for or who works for you, the one you should ultimately want to please is your Father in heaven.*

What now? (15 minutes)

Please pray that the Lord would give you his wisdom to model him in every aspect of your life. His example is the only one we should be emulating. Please also pray that we would embody his forgiveness and patience not only for others who frustrate and hurt us, but for ourselves as we strive to mature in Christlikeness.

Closing Prayer (15 minutes)

Please pray for the parents and for the children at Northwest, within our community, and all across the globe. Our children are very vulnerable and it is our responsibility as parents and leaders to set a godly example for our children and youth to follow. Please pray for the upcoming planning for VBS, and that the Lord would provide plenty of volunteers to serve in this ministry. Please pray for the work we do at our jobs, that no matter our role, we would glorify the Lord in all we do. Please continue to lift up marriages in prayer.

Sermon Notes: