

SERMON DISCUSSION GROUP

SUB-MISSION

While anyone can take time to answer these questions individually, these questions are best discussed in a group! Not in a group yet? We want you in one! Head over to southeastchristian.org to join a group in person or online, wherever you are - today!

In a world built on power and position, submission is subversion. A life lived in full submission to Christ can have a radically transformative effect on a household, a workplace, and even an entire community.

Read Ephesians 6:1-9. As you read the passage, what questions/concerns do you have about Paul's words here? How does knowing the context of Paul's day help you understand these commands? What difference does it make to know that Paul addressed the most vulnerable (children/slaves) first? Who are the vulnerable in our day that we need to show value to?

Paul begins this passage by repeating the command to "honor your father and mother." What does it look like for us, as adults, to honor our parents? How is it similar/different to the way young children should honor their parents? If you are a parent of older children, what are some ways that you feel "honored" by your children?

In Ephesians 6:4, Paul warns fathers not to "exasperate" their children. What are some ways that parents can frustrate their children? When you look back on the home you grew up in, how did your parents exasperate you? What effect did this have on you?

Take another look at Ephesians 6:5-9. How do you think slaves would have heard these words? What about their masters? How can we apply these words to our work environments today?

If you want to change the game, you have to change the people playing the game. How did the concept of submission transform the hierarchy of Paul's day? What are some systems/structures in our day that would be transformed by submission? What kind of effect could this have on our culture?

Ephesians 5 and 6 paint a picture of what submission looks like across a variety of relationships. What are some other roles and relationships where submission is important? What would submission look like in your neighborhood? At the store? Online? In the church? How would submission transform these environments? How can you model submission in the places you go?

"In the New Testament, water runs thicker than blood." How does our baptism into Christ change our allegiance? What are some things that compete for our allegiance and affections today? How do we make sure we're maintaining a focus on our new family in Christ?