Reassess Your Family's Ethos

Ephesians 5:15 - 6:9

Ethos Definition The distinguishing character, moral nature, guiding beliefs, or ideals of a person, group, or institution.

Ephesians 5:15 So be careful how you live. Don't live like fools, but like those who are wise. **Ephesians 5:16** Make the most of every opportunity in these evil days. **Ephesians 5:17** Don't act thoughtlessly, but understand what the Lord wants you to do.

Ephesians 5:18 Don't be drunk with wine, because that will ruin your life. Instead, be filled with the Holy Spirit,

Ephesians 5:19 singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs among yourselves, and making music to the Lord in your hearts.

Ephesians 5:20 And give thanks for everything to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

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Ephesians 5:21 And further, submit to one another out of reverence for Christ.

Ephesians 5:22 For wives, this means submit to your husbands as to the Lord.

Ephesians 5:23 For a husband is the head of his wife as Christ is the head of the church. He is the Savior of his body, the church.

Ephesians 5:24 As the church submits to Christ, so you wives should submit to your husbands in everything. **Ephesians 5:25** For husbands, this means love your wives, just as Christ loved the church.

Ephesians 5:26 He gave up his life for her to make her holy and clean, washed by the cleansing of God's word.

Ephesians 5:27 He did this to present her to himself as a glorious church without a spot or wrinkle or any other blemish. Instead, she will be holy and without fault.

Ephesians 5:28 In the same way, husbands ought to love their wives as they love their own bodies. For a man who loves his wife actually shows love for himself.

Ephesians 5:29 No one hates his own body but feeds and cares for it, just as Christ cares for the church.

Ephesians 5:30 And we are members of his body.

Ephesians 5:31 As the Scriptures say, "A man leaves his father and mother and is joined to his wife, and the two are united into one."

Ephesians 5:32 This is a great mystery, but it is an illustration of the way Christ and the church are one.

Ephesians 5:33 So again I say, each man must love his wife as he loves himself, and the wife must respect her husband.

Ephesians 6:1 Children, obey your parents because you belong to the Lord, for this is the right thing to do.

Ephesians 6:2 "Honor your father and mother." This is the first commandment with a promise:

Ephesians 6:3 If you honor your father and mother, "things will go well for you, and you will have a long life on the earth."

Fathers, do not provoke your children to anger by the way you treat them. Rather, bring them up with the discipline and instruction that comes from the Lord.

Slaves, obey your earthly masters with deep respect and fear. Serve them sincerely as you would serve Christ.

Try to please them all the time, not just when they are watching you. As slaves of Christ, do the will of God with all your heart.

Ephesians 6:7 Work with enthusiasm, as though you were working for the Lord rather than for people.

Ephesians 6:8 **Remember that the Lord will** reward each one of us for the good we do, whether we are slaves or free.

Masters, treat your slaves in the same way. Don't threaten them; remember, you both have the same Master in heaven, and he has no favorites.

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Principle #1

We must constantly re-examine our interpretations of God's Word to make sure they legitimately match God's heart, character, integrity, and intent.

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Principle #2

The most important testimony we have is the witness of our families, intimate relationships, and especially our marriages.

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1 John 4:20

Whoever claims to love God yet hates a brother or sister is a liar. For whoever does not love their brother and sister, whom they have seen, cannot love God, whom they have not seen.

1 John 4:21

And he has given us this command: Anyone who loves God must also love their brother and sister.

Principle #2

The most important testimony we have is the witness of our families, intimate relationships, and especially our marriages.

Principle #3 In the economy of God (oikonomia) leadership, authority, and power are not so much signs of favor or privilege, as much as they are declarations of greater responsibility, accountability, and judgment.

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Principle #4 Love, integrity, character, and mutual submission begets honor, respect, and loyalty in our relationships.

Principle #5 We reap what we sow, more than we sow, later than we sow.

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Principle #6 An implementation of God's House Codes without God's heart will result in sin and chaos.

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