

Series: Special Topic Passage: Ephesians 6: 1-9 Title: Family, Workplace, and Relationships Speaker: Pastor JC Cooper, 1/19/2025

Discussion Starter –How would you describe your relationship with authority and authority figures throughout your life? Have you changed in that area because of your relationship with Jesus?

Read Ephesians 6:1-4

- 1. When can we best model, teach, and instill respect for authority in our children? What tools and instructions have been given to us as parents? (Read Deuteronomy 6:4-9)
- 2. How does this admonition to obey apply to pre-school children? What age range do you think this teaching is directed to?
- 3. What promise is associated with this command? Describe how obedience to the command relates to the promise.
 - a. What significant piece of advice did your parents give you? Did you follow it or not? How did it turn out?
- 4. What does "honor your parents" look like for pre-adult children?
- 5. What does honoring our parents look like as we age? What should remain constant throughout the years?
 - b. What is your relationship with your parents? What three practical tips were given in the message?
- 6. What does it mean to provoke our children to wrath? How can we avoid that pitfall?

Read Ephesians 6:5-9

- 7. What is the difference between serving as a man-pleaser or in sincerity of heart? What can we expect if we continue in faithful service? (Genesis 39:21-23)
 - c. Describe a time that you suffered well, yet ultimately rose in respect and authority?
- 8. How many times is our relationship to Jesus referenced as a template for our relationship with employee or employer in this passage? What does that indicate to you? Do you see yourself as a master or a servant?
 - d. How is our relationship with Jesus reflected in our relationship with our spouses, children, and coworkers?
 - e. How do our relationships with spouses, children, and co-workers reflect our relationship with Jesus?
- 9. In Eph 5:32 Paul says that his teaching about marriage is really a picture of Christ and His church. How might these teachings about parents, children, masters and servants teach us about the authority structure of God's Kingdom?