

### Getting Started

- Our homework assignment for this week was to read and meditate daily on Ephesians 5-6. Use the space below to summarize your observations from these two chapters.

Ephesians Chapter 5	Ephesians Chapter 6

### Discussion

- Explain why Ephesians 5:15-21 may be the key to strong, Christ-centered marriages and families.
- What does it look like as spouses, parents, children, siblings to submit one to another out of reverence for Christ?

All the family commands in chapters 5 and 6 are based on loving mutual submission.

Before anyone in the family is given instructions on how to do family, the church is told to submit to each other. All the commands below regarding submission on a role level are given on the basis of equality. Everyone is being told just because you are in charge does not mean you are more important. Before Paul tells people they are in a submissive or obedient role he tells them that everyone submits to each other. The greatest is the one who is the greatest servant.

Family Matters ... Discuss the blessings of living out these commands as well as problems when they are not obeyed.

- Wives (5:22, 30)
- Husband (5:23-33)
- Children (6:1-3)
- Parents (6:4)

Paul concludes this letter with a powerful statement about the importance of knowing our enemy and how to approach spiritual warfare. We need to pray for our families, marriages, parents, and children as our enemy is continually scheming to distract, deceive, discourage and destroy us.

- How are “being filled with the Spirit” and “putting on the armor of God” synonymous?

We are commanded to not get drunk on wine but instead be filled with the Spirit. We are commanded to be alert and always keep on praying for all the saints. In 1 Peter 5:8 we are commanded to be self-controlled and alert because our enemy is roaming around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour. Peter also writes in 1 Peter 4:7 to be clear or sober-minded and self-controlled so that you can pray.

- What situations are you currently facing in your marriage and family that requires you to be alert, sober-minded, filled with Spirit, so that you can pray and stand strong in the Lord and in His mighty power?

## Prayer

Live out Ephesians 6:18 as you pray for one another, your marriages, your families, and our church.