

COMMUNITY BIBLE CHURCH
PAUL'S LETTER TO THE COLOSSIANS – LESSON 8
COLOSSIANS 3:18-4:6
WEEK OF FEBRUARY 9 – FEBRUARY 14

COMPLETENESS IN CHRIST – DISPLAYED IN THE FAMILY, ON THE JOB AND IN OUR SPEECH

In Chapters 1 and 2, Christ is declared to be the preeminent One who is all sufficient to provide everything we need for life and godliness. In Colossians 3:18-4:6, we see what obedience to Christ looks like in: (1) **our relationships in our homes (Col.3:18-21)**; (2) **our relationships in our workplaces (Col. 3:22-4:1)** and (3) **our communication with others (our speech and conduct) (Col.4:2-6)**. As we obey the instructions Paul gives in this passage, our lives will demonstrate what it means to “walk in a manner worthy of the Lord” (Col.1:10).

The Believer's Completeness in Christ Displayed in Relationships Within The Family

Read Colossians 3:18-21:

1. In **Colossians 3:18**, what is Paul's clear instruction to wives? How is that illustrated in **Ephesians 5:22-24**?

“God does all things “decently and orderly” (1 **Cor. 14:40**). If He did not have a chain of command in society, we would have chaos. The fact that the woman is to submit to her husband does not suggest that the man is better than the woman. It only means that the man has the responsibility of headship and leadership in the home. [Be Complete](#), Warren W Wiersbe, p.124

“There may be times when a wife must refuse to submit to her husband's desires (if they violate God's Word). The husband's authority is not to be exercised in an authoritative, overbearing manner. The wife's submission takes place in the context of a loving relationship. [MacArthur Commentary Colossians & Philemon](#), John MacArthur, pg. 168

2. From **Col. 3:19**, what are the responsibilities of husbands?

3. What additional instruction does Paul provide to husbands in **Ephesians 5:25-29**?

4. In **Colossians 3:20**, what is the responsibility of children in a home seeking to glorify Christ?
What is the extent of the child's obedience?

“The only limit placed on a child's obedience is when a parent demands something contrary to God's law.”
[Colossians & Philemon](#), p. 170

5. In **Colossians 3:21**, the word "*Pateres*" is translated "fathers". In **Hebrews 11:23**, "*Pateres*" is translated "parents". What is the instruction to fathers (parents) and what is the warning that is coupled with the instruction?
6. Practically, what parental actions can exasperate children?

The Believer's Completeness in Christ Displayed in Relationships Within the Workplace.

Read Colossians 3:22-4:1

7. In **Colossians 3:22-25** what are the attitudes of the godly servant (employee)? What is the motivation for that service?
8. From **Col. 4:1** what is expected of employers and what supplies the motivation and for that attitude?

The Believer's Completeness in Christ Displayed in Speech

Read Colossians 4:2-6

9. What instruction does Paul give in **Col.4:2** about prayer which is our speech directed to God?
10. In **Colossians 4:3-4**, what is the specific instruction for prayer as we proclaim the gospel which is our speech directed to people about God?

"Talk to God about men before you talk to men about God".

MacArthur Bible Studies, Colossians and Philemon, p.91

11. In **Colossians 4:5**, "outsiders" refers to unbelievers. In **Col. 4:5-6**, how should our completeness in Christ be reflected in our conduct and speech with unbelievers around us?
12. There is much practical application and instruction from this section of Colossians, all of which flows from the solid theological foundation established in **Colossians chapters 1, 2 and 3:1-17**. From this week's lesson, what are the top two instructions you will put into practice right now, and what steps will you take to obey this instruction in reliance on God's strength and provision?