

VALUING RELATIONSHIPS

March 18, 2018

INTRODUCTION

Our relationship with Jesus is to be reflected in our relationships with others

TEXT: Ephesians 5:21 (ref. 5:21-6:9)

Paul is writing to the church about the importance of relationships
When relationships break down, society breaks down

Five Characteristics of Christian Submission

- **It is to be freely chosen**
Not coerced but voluntarily chosen
- **It involves yielding to a higher purpose**
For Paul: submission isn't the giving up of self but the yielding of self to a higher purpose (God's)
- **It is to glorify God**
Our yielding is an act of worship: bring honor to Him
- **It is to benefit others**
Living in such a way that you make the lives of those around you better
- **It is to be reciprocal**
Not about lording and leveraging to get our way, but to serve one another with the love of Christ

Living a life of submission

1. Love Jesus

Following Jesus is about a relationship with Him
Reflecting on who He is and what He has done

2. Learn from Jesus

Following His example

3. Life for Jesus

As our aim: Lord, let this life be for your glory!
As our mission: Do for others as He did for us

Response: To let my love for Jesus impact my love for others