Gotta Serve Somebody

Ephesians 6:1-9

Main Idea:

Whatever our station in society, our lives are to be shaped by our submission to God.

- Children are to obey their parents as an act of obedience to God. v 1; Colossians 3:20
- All ages are to honor their parents, which includes caring for aging parents. v 2-3; Matthew 15:3-6
- We are to honor and obey parents as aspects of our relationship with and reverence for God.
- Godly parenting requires patient discipline and instruction in God's ways, but prohibits _____ (v 4).
- God appoints fathers as the primary spiritual shepherds of their families (v 4), but Scripture also describes the importance of _____ (Proverbs 14:1; 31:27-29).
- Encouragement for single moms: Timothy's exceptional spiritual legacy passed to him from his mother and grandmother (Acts 16:1-2; 2 Timothy 1:5, 3:14–15).
- The gospel redeems ordinary work into service rendered unto God that will be rewarded by Him in eternity (v 7-8).
- Employees are told to look out for their employer's interests. Employers are likewise to look out for the wellbeing of their workers.
- Those in subordinate positions are to submit to those in authority out of reverence for God.
- Those in positions of authority are to recognize their accountability to God and exercise authority in a way that pleases Him.
- Whatever our station in society, we are all accountable to God, and He will pay us back, good or evil, as our deeds deserve (Colossians 3:25).

Discussion

- Why are submission and authority so important to God?
- What does it mean to bring children up in the discipline and instruction of the Lord?
- How does knowing you're ultimately working for God shape your attitudes and actions at work?
- How can we live out the commands to workers even when we have difficult or unreasonable bosses? How can this help grow our faith?
- How can we demonstrate God's character to those we have authority over?
- How is obeying these commands connected to our gospel witness?