

THE CHRIST EXPRESSED LIFE: FAMILY
(Colossians 3:18-21)

Families That Wish to Live to the Glory of God Are Not Without Divine Direction or Divine Supply - II Pet 1:3,4

...We are directed away from the reign of self-interest and supplied with Divine love, Divine peace, Divine truth, and Divine character - Col 3:14-17

Christ-Centered Families: Where the Sacrificial, Submissive Love of Jesus Christ Sets the Tone - Col 3:18-21

- When Christ is not the center, the tendency of things in a fallen world is to fall apart - Col 1:17; 3:10
- With Christ at the center, self rule is overcome and slain by sacrificed and submissive love - I Jo 4:18

...we are caught up in the stream of an eternal purpose higher than self-interest - Phil 2:1-4

...we are free to love one another in meaningful ways - Col 3:12-13; I Cor 13:4-8

Christ-centered, Spirit-filled Femaleness Will Submissively Love - Col 3:18; Eph 5:22; I Pet 3:4

- Her God-given "authority" to influence through the submissive love of Christ - Jo 10:18

Christ-centered, Spirit-filled Maleness Will Sacrificially Love - Col 3:19; Eph 5:25

- His God-given "authority" to influence through the sacrificial love of Christ - Jo 10:18

Since Neither Is fighting for Power, Both Are Free to Fight "FOR", Not "AGAINST" the Other - I Cor 10:24

The Parent/Child Relationship Also Calls for the Sacrificial/Submissive Love of Christ - Col 3:20,21; Eph 6:1-4

- Children are to "line up" under their parents "say so" - Deut 5:16; Prov 6:20
- Parents are to work more on being godly parents than raising godly children - Deut 4:9; 6:5-8

...personal influence through loving, respectful, trustworthy relationships (see attached)

To Contribute to Such an Atmosphere We Must Be Filled and Led by the Holy Spirit of Christ - Eph 5:18-6:4

- Renounce the "externals" ("wine")... distractions, fantasies, toys, weapons of darkness - Eph 5:18
- Thank God for your family... stay tuned and turned to Christ - Eph 5:20
- "I'll be for _____ (the other)!"... so His Life for others may freely flow - Eph 5:21

..."LOVE MY FAMILY AS ME!"

"HOW TO BE AN EXASPERATING PARENT"

(making negative impressions that last)

Colossians 3:24; Ephesians 6:4

- 1. Choose anger over action as your primary disciplinary approach.**
- 2. Make sure you settle arguments before all sides are heard.**
- 3. Make "Do as I say, not as I do" your basic defense mechanism.**
- 4. See to it that your discipline is designed to punish more than to teach.**
- 5. Demand compliance over desiring and demonstrating compassion.**
- 6. Clearly demonstrate it is more important to follow your orders than to follow your example.**
- 7. Work harder to find fault than to discern the need behind the fault.**
- 8. Be prone to seek personal relief over relational reconciliation.**
- 9. Be quicker to lay down the law than to lay down your agenda.**
- 10. Love the dream of your child more than you are willing to love your child.**