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**Sermon: *“The Heavenly-Minded Family”***

**Scripture: Colossians 3:18-4:1**

Pastor Stephen Schultze

Sunday, December 1, 2019

**Introduction:**

Every believer must answer the question daily, “How should I live as a heavenly citizen while I remain on earth?”

**“*It is since Christians have largely ceased to think of the other world***

***that they have become so ineffective in this.”*** *C.S. Lewis, “Mere Christianity”*

Your response to your husband, wife, parents, children, boss or employees is first and foremost a statement about your view of God and eternity.

1. **The Christ-centered couple reflects divine order & selfless love.**
2. The submission of a Christian wife points her family towards Christ’s authority.
3. The love of a Christian husband points his family towards Christ’s love.

***“In marriage, we choose to cherish someone and cherishing***

***necessitates training our minds and hearts to be satisfied***

***and even enthralled with our choice.”*** *Gary Thomas, “Cherish”*

1. **The Christ-centered family seeks heavenly values above than their own interests.**
2. Christ-centered children learn to please Christ rather than themselves.
3. Christ-centered parents lead according to Christ’s values above their own interests.

* The heavenly minded home will be a place of desperate prayer and daily forgiveness.

1. **Christ-Centered Workers & Bosses Serve under the same Master.**

* Joseph (Genesis 37-45) is a beautiful example faithfully serving his heavenly Master regardless of his circumstances or position.

1. Christian workers obey their boss because of their confidence in God & His promises.
2. Christian Bosses serve their heavenly Master, not their earthly motivations.

***If you read history, you will find that the Christians who did most***

***for the present world were just those who thought most of the next.”***

*C.S. Lewis*

**Questions to Consider:**

1. What makes the thought of submission so difficult? How does a Christ-centered focus change one’s view of submission?
2. How does the husband’s responsibility to love his wife set the tone on earthly vs. eternal?
3. In what ways does the obedience of a child help a child grow in a Christ-centered mindset?
4. How do earthly values get in the way of Christ-centered parenting?
5. How does Colossians 3:22-4:1 undermine the earthly mindsets that supported slavery?
6. What practical attitudes and practices should be true of a Christ-centered worker as a result of a Christ-centered, eternal mindset?
7. What injustices and unfair practices might a Christ-centered “master” (boss, employer) address as a servant of their “Master in heaven”?