

6. **V20** addresses children.
- a) Under what circumstances are children to obey their parents? Where have you seen this lived out well or not?

 - b) What reason did Paul give for children to be obedient, and what reasons do you hear parents give to their children today?
7. a) In your own words, what parent/child relationship pitfall was Paul addressing in **V21**?
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- b) If you have had personal experience with the parenting pitfall Paul addressed, how has it shaped you or your family relationships?
8. In the context of what you know about Paul's first century culture, how do you think the readers of Paul's letter would have reacted to any of these instructions for:
- Wives

 - Husbands

 - Children

 - Fathers

Note: Though in **3:22 - 4:1** Paul specifically addressed Godly living within the master/slave relationship, the same principles can be applied to Christians in today's workplace.

9. In **V22**, Paul instructed slaves to be obedient to their masters.
- a) What were the unhealthy and healthy attitudes mentioned that can be the motivation behind workplace obedience?

 - b) If you look at your own attitudes, what is (or was) your primary motivation to obey workplace rules and expectations?

10. a) From **V23-24**, list the different aspects of a right work ethic.
- b) Which of these is most helpful in re-orienting your mindset about the work you do? Be specific.
11. What more does **V25** add to this teaching, and what do you think it means?
12. What does **4:1** say to masters, and how can this apply to a Christian boss today?
13. *Pressing on in confidence* can be hard when we're in challenging relationships.
- a) Share about any relationship where you've seen or experienced God's redeeming work (especially as it relates to **Colossians 3:18-4:1**).
- b) When others feel stuck in a relational challenge, how would you encourage them to *press on*? Give examples.
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DIGGING DEEPER

1. **V22-25** encouraged believers to have a strong work ethic. What more does the Bible teach about work?
- **Psalm 90:17**

 - **Ecclesiastes 3:22**

 - **Titus 2:9-10**
2. Earning a promotion in the workplace is often a strong motivator for hard work. What do you learn from the following passages about promotions in God's economy?
- **Psalm 78:70-72**

 - **Luke 16:10**
3. a) Write out the Suggested Memory Verse: **Colossians 3:23**
- b) Spend some time talking with God about any of the areas in your life that were highlighted in this Lesson.

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PRAYER REQUEST