

Battle For The Family: 3 of 4
"Battle For Respect"
Cornerstone Church of Poway
Pastor Ed Turley
February 17, 2019

Big Idea: Our families are not the enemy. We must battle against the devil, our culture and our flesh for the future of our families.

"Do not give the devil a foothold." **Ephesians 4:27 (NIV) Remember Verse**

I Will Protect My Family By Choosing To:

1. Cooperate Voluntarily Out Of _____

"And further, submit to one another out of **reverence** for Christ. For wives, this means submit to your husbands **as to the Lord.**" **Ephesians 5:21-22 (NLT2)**

"Submit yourselves, then, to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you."
James 4:7 (NIV)

Notes: _____

2. Trust God's Design _____

➤ **In Marriage**

"For a husband is the **head** of his wife as Christ is the head of the church. He is the Savior of his body, the church. As the church submits to Christ, so you wives should submit to your husbands in everything. For husbands, this means **love** your wives, just as Christ loved the church. He gave up his life for her."

Ephesians 5:23-25 (NLT2)

"In the same way, you wives must **accept the authority** of your husbands. Then, even if some refuse to obey the Good News, your **godly lives** will speak to them without any words. They will be won over by observing your **pure** and **reverent** lives."

1 Peter 3:1-2 (NLT2)

➤ **In the Church**

"Now these are the **gifts** Christ gave to the church: the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, and the pastors and teachers. Their responsibility is to **equip** God's people **to do** His work and build up the church, the body of Christ."

Ephesians 4:11-12 (NLT2)

➤ **In Employment**

"Slaves, obey your earthly masters with deep respect and fear. Serve them sincerely as you would serve Christ. Try to please them all the time, not just when they are watching you. As slaves of Christ, do the will of God with all your heart. Work with enthusiasm, as though you were working for the Lord rather than for people."

Remember that the Lord will reward each one of us for the good we do, whether we are slaves or free. **Masters**, treat your slaves in the same way. Don't threaten them; remember, you both have the **same Master** in heaven, and he has no favorites." **Ephesians 6:5-9 (NLT2)**

➤ **In all Authorities**

"Everyone must submit himself to the governing authorities, for there is no authority except that which **God has established**. The authorities that exist have been established by God." **Romans 13:1 (NIV)**

Peter and the other apostles replied, "We must obey God rather than men!" **Acts 5:29**

Notes: _____

3. Make Our Family An Example Of _____

"As the Scriptures say, "A man leaves his father and mother and is joined to his wife, and the two are **united** into one." This is a great mystery, but it is an **illustration** of the way Christ and the church are one. So again I say, each man must **love** his wife as he loves himself, and the wife must **respect** her husband." **Ephesians 5:31-33 (NLT2)**

To Demonstrate Respect This Week I Will:

➤ **Speak tactfully, not just truthfully**

"Instead, we will speak the **truth in love**, growing in every way more and more like Christ, who is the head of his body, the church." **Ephesians 4:15 (NLT2)**

➤ **Be gentle, not judgmental when I disagree**

"Always be **humble and gentle**. Be patient with each other, making allowance for each other's faults because of your love. Make every effort to keep yourselves **UNITED** in the Spirit, binding yourselves **TOGETHER** with peace." **Ephesians 4:2-3**

➤ **Give thanks and pray for them**

"I have not stopped **thanking** God for you. I pray for you constantly, asking God, the glorious Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, to give you **spiritual wisdom** and insight so that you might grow in your knowledge of God." **Ephesians 1:16-17 (NLT2)**

Notes: _____

➤ Do I have any relationships that are starving for love and respect?

My next right step I will:

- ☐ Speak tactfully, not just truthfully
- ☐ Be gentle, not judgmental
- ☐ Give thanks and pray for them
- ☐ Accept Jesus as my Lord and Savior

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[This is only a guide – select the points you want to discuss.]

Open your group with a prayer.

Icebreaker: When was the last time you got a traffic ticket?
 How did you feel about the police officer?

I Will Protect My Family By Choosing To:

1. Cooperate Voluntarily Out Of Love And Respect For Christ

Commentary: [5:21, 22](#) Submitting to another person is an often misunderstood concept. It does not mean becoming a doormat. Christ—at whose name "every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth" ([Philippians 2:10](#))—submitted his will to the Father, and we honor Christ by following his example. When we submit to God, we become more willing to obey his command to submit to others, that is, to subordinate our rights to theirs. In a marriage relationship, both husband and wife are called to submit. For the wife, this means willingly following her husband's leadership in Christ. For the husband, it means putting aside his own interests in order to care for his wife. Life Application Study Bible.

Read Ephesians 5:21 In what ways can we practically submit to each other?

Read Ephesians 5:22 Why should wives submit to their own husbands?

How is this practically lived out?

Read James 4:7 Where does our ultimate submission begin? Why?

2. Trust God's Design Has An Eternal Purpose

Commentary: [5:22-24](#). According to the Bible, the man is the spiritual head of the family, and his wife should acknowledge his leadership. But real spiritual leadership involves loving service (a form of dying). Just as Christ served the disciples, even to the point of washing their feet, so the husband is to serve his wife. A wise and Christ-honoring husband will not take advantage of his leadership role, and a wise and Christ-honoring wife will not try to undermine her husband's leadership. Either approach causes disunity and friction in marriage. Life Application Study Bible.

➤ **In Marriage**

Read Ephesians 5:23-25 Why is “headship” a responsibility, rather than a right?

Read 1 Peter 3:1-2 What is the best approach to an unbelieving husband?

➤ **In the Church**

Read Ephesians 4:11-12

What is the role of pastors and teachers? What is the role of members? Why?

➤ **In Employment**

Read Ephesians 6:5-9

What is the role for employees? What is the role of employers?

How can this make an eternal difference?

➤ **In all Authorities**

Read Romans 13:1-2 & Read Acts 5:29

Looking back through History, why has God allowed some nations to rise and fall?

When is it ok disobey the government?

3. Make Our Family An Example Of Love And Respect

Read Ephesians 5:31-33

What does God want our marriages to be an example of?

To Demonstrate Respect This Week I Will:

➤ **Speak tactfully, not just truthfully**

Read Ephesians 4:15 How well do you do in speaking truth in a respectful way?

➤ **Be gentle, not judgmental when I disagree**

Ephesians 4:2-3 How can you show more respect when you disagree?

➤ **Give thanks and pray for them**

Ephesians 1:16-17 Who, in your family, needs prayer this week?

Family Warrior Prayer #3 [Ephesians 5:2, 25-33; 6:5-9; 1:16-17]

Dear Lord,

Our marriages and families are starving for love and respect. We confess we have withheld love and respect from each other. This has brought pain and discord in our relationships. We have let fear and selfishness control how much we give and receive. We ask for your forgiveness and we also choose to forgive each other as you have forgiven us.

Jesus, You are the perfect example of love and respect. You surrendered Your will to the Father's will and offered Your life to redeem us. Help us to be humble and to cooperate voluntarily out of reverence for You. Help us to be tactful when we tell the truth. Help us to be gentle and not judgmental when we disagree. Remind us that everyone has value and to be thankful for the people You placed in our lives. Lord, help us to accept, appreciate and affirm the good qualities in our parents, spouse and children.

Today Lord, I want to thank you for: _____. You have brought _____ into my life for Your greater purpose. Help me to show love and respect in a way that will bring encouragement to _____ this week. I pray that _____ will grow in spiritual wisdom and strength. I pray that our marriage and family will be an example of Your grace and mercy. Amen.