**Series: Colossians**

**Speaker: Ronnie Norman, Senior Minister**

**Today: Personal and Relational**

1. **A New Household Code**
2. **For Husbands & Wives**

***Colossians 3:18-19***

*18Wives, submit yourselves to your husbands, as is fitting in the Lord.*

*19Husbands, love your wives and do not be harsh with them.*

1. **For Parents & Children**

***Colossians 3:20-21***

*20Children, obey your parents in everything, for this pleases the Lord.*

*21Fathers, do not embitter your children, or they will become discouraged.*

* Protect the power of your team by adopting a “no one loses” philosophy.

1. **A New Business Model**

**Workplace Myths**

Myth: Work is necessary evil

Fact: We were created to work

Myth: There’s an ideal job out there

Fact: Adam’s curse still applies & contentment comes from within

Myth: Only a few are in full-time ministry

Fact: Every job is a ministry assignment

1. **When You’re Not the Boss**

***Colossians 3:22-25***

*22Slaves, obey your earthly masters in everything…*

“Paul is speaking to servants and masters...and this raises many questions in the minds of modern readers about the Bible’s depiction of the evil of slavery. While much can be said about this subject, it is important to remember that slavery in the Greco-Roman world was not the same as the New World institution that developed in the wake of the African slave trade. Slavery in Paul’s time was not race-based and was seldom lifelong. It was more like what we would call indentured servitude. But for our purposes, think of this passage as a rhetorical amplifier and consider this: If slave owners are told they must not manage workers in pride and through fear, how much more should this be true of employers today? And if slaves are told it is possible to find satisfaction and meaning in their work, how much more should this be true of workers today?” -Timothy Keller, Every Good Endeavor, p. 213

*22Slaves, obey your earthly masters in everything; and do it, not only when their eye is on you and to curry their favor, but with sincerity of heart and reverence for the Lord. 23Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for human masters, 24since you know that you will receive an inheritance from the Lord as a reward. It is the Lord Christ you are serving. 25Anyone who does wrong will be repaid for their wrongs, and there is no favoritism.*

* Do what you were hired to do
* Take charge of your attitude.
* Pursue excellence – reject “good enough”
* You are serving Jesus!

**B. When You Are the Boss**

***Colossians 4:1***

*Masters, provide your slaves with what is right and fair, because you know that you also have a Master in heaven.*

* Create a work environment that is both just and fair.
* Treat your subordinates in a way that honors Jesus.