

“SUBMITTING TO ONE ANOTHER OUT OF REVERENCE FOR CHRIST IN OUR HOMES”
EPHESIANS 5:18-21
SEPTEMBER 21, 2008

Questions for Study and Reflection

1. Why does our church celebrate “family week”? Do you think this is a worthy idea?
2. What is the purpose of the church? What is the purpose of Christian families? How do these two purposes relate to one another?
3. Which one of the following is temporary and which is eternal: the family and the church. Explain your answer (see Matthew 22:29-30).
4. The Puritans thought of the family as a small version of the church. Why did they think this way? Were they right to think this way?
5. If families are a small version of the church then they ought to structure themselves like a church, at least in many respects. What do churches do that Christians families ought also to do?
6. What are some of the difficulties you’ve faced as you’ve tried to be “the church” in your home? How has the grace of God been displayed to you through these difficulties? What can you do to overcome them?
7. Paul commanded us to submit to one another out of reverence for Christ: what does this imply for our relationships with one another (see Matthew 20:25-28; Luke 14:7-11; Philippians 2:3-5; and 1 Peter 5:1-7)?
8. Pastor Charlie said he thought the proper contexts for obeying commands like Ephesians 5:21 are (a) the Christian family, (b) small clusters of Christian families, and (c) larger gatherings of the church—in that order. Do you agree with him? How should submission look in each of these contexts?