



Serve those over you as if you're _____

- With respect, sincerity, and good will.

- Knowing you will be rewarded.

Care for those under you as your _____ in _____

- With respect, sincerity, and good will.

- Without threats.

- Knowing you have the same heavenly Master.

TAKE A NEXT STEP

- _____ on a passage in Scripture that highlights Christ taking on the role of a servant (Mark 10:42–45. Phil 2:5–11).
- _____ your work relationships in light of this text and find one way in which you can better serve Christ as employee or employer.

We continue our study of the book of Ephesians with God's Word to Servants and Masters in Ephesians 6:5–9. The Gospel of the Lord Jesus transformed the bondservant/master relationship in Ephesus, and it transforms our servant/master type relationships here and now.

Six truths about slavery in the Bible

1. Slavery in the Bible is _____.
2. God _____ any kind of human-stealing, abusive slavery.
3. God established laws to _____ slaves and their rights.
4. Some slavery was _____.
5. Slavery in the first century Roman Empire was HORRIBLE and _____.
6. The Gospel _____ master/slave relationships.



Servants & Masters

Ephesians 6:5–9

Sunday, November 15, 2020

Growth Groups are the glue that holds our church together, the way we find and follow Jesus together. If you are not involved in a Growth Group, now is the time to jump in at gracecentralcoast.org.

This year, our aim is to see our Growth Groups embody our 3-fold identity as followers of Jesus: Family, Servant, and Missionary. To that end, we're framing our Growth Group Interaction Guide to help groups move in that direction.

During the COVID-19 crisis our groups are meeting live and virtually using Zoom and other online platforms.

CONNECT *(ask these questions to check-in with your group)*

Share any ways you've recently seen the ideas of mutual love and submission (Eph 5:21–6:9) show up in your relationships.

DISCUSS *(use some of these questions to process God's word together)*

1. Read Ephesians 6:5–9. How did you “come under” God's Word in the text and message this week? How did God speak to you or challenge you?
2. What did you learn about slavery in the Bible that is most helpful to you? How can that help you answer someone who thinks the Bible supports slavery?
3. How did the Christian Gospel lay the groundwork for the abolition of slavery and all other forms of harsh treatment? How does the Gospel still do this today?

4. Whether you are working in a workplace right now or not, how does this text change how you view work?
5. Paul is extremely Christ-centered in this text—he mentions Jesus in every verse. How do we move ourselves to a place where we think as Christ-centered about our servant/master relationships as Paul did? How can we help each other do that?
6. How do the commands in this text remind us of what Christ has done for us? And how does Christ's work from incarnation to death and resurrection move us to obey this text?

PRAY

- Pray for those suffering through this Covid-19 pandemic and pray for it to end soon.
- Pray for those around the world still impacted by human trafficking and slavery.
- Pray for submissive hearts to those over us as we follow the example of Jesus, and serve them as a way to serve Him.
- Pray for us to show gospel-care to those under us, viewing them as our equals before the Lord.
- Pray for one another in light of the things shared in your discussion.