



# GROWTH GROUP SERMON CURRICULUM

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A GOSPEL LIFE | June 23, 2019 | EPHESIANS 6:5-9

*"...Obey your earthly masters with fear and trembling, with a sincere heart, as you would Christ."—Ephesians 6:5*

## FROM THE TEXT

- Read Ephesians 6:5-9. Think about Paul's context and the godly commands he gives to slaves and masters. Why do you think these commands were necessary for Paul to give to the Ephesian believers? Contrast Paul's commands with what was more than likely, "the norm" in these slave-to-master and master-to-slave relationships.
- Also read and discuss: 1 Peter 2:18-25, Philemon 1:8-20 (\*Leader: look up overview/context of Philemon in a Study Bible), John 15:13-15. Gain a broader view of slave-to-master relationships.

## FROM THE SERMON

- In the sermon Pastor Chris talked about how employees are to obey their employers respectfully, sincerely, and joyfully. Which of these stand out to you? Where do you struggle the most and why?
- Pastor Chris said: "Christian employers should not consider themselves above their employees; in fact, according to Philippians 2:3-11, it means that Christian employers should consider their employees as better than themselves." If this is true, how could living like this change our work places? Have you ever had an employer/boss who led like Jesus? If so, what did that look like?

## FOR YOUR LIFE | APPLICATION | ACCOUNTABILITY

- If you are in any sort of leadership at your workplace: What are some next steps you can begin to take at work in showing those who work under you who Christ is, in the way you lead? Is there anything you have thought about incorporating at work that would take a step of faith in standing out for Christ? How can the group encourage you in this?
- If you are an employee or have any number of people above you in leadership: What are some next steps you can begin to take at work in showing others who Christ is, in the way you work? Is there anything you have thought about incorporating at work that would take a step of faith in standing out for Christ? How can the group encourage you in this?

## PRAYER FOCUS

Confess to God your shortcomings in the workplace (Any bad attitude, complaining, gossiping about others, laziness, discontentment, anything un-Christlike). Receive His grace afresh. Then, commit your next steps of obedience to the Lord that were talked about in your time above.