

Objective: Family members live, speak, and work (chores, school work, jobs) in ways that honor Christ and point unbelievers to Him.

How This Lesson Fits in the Story of the Bible: Paul likely wrote his letter to the believers at Colossae around AD 61-62 while under house arrest in Rome.

Bible Basics: Review the names and order of books 1 through 31 of the Old Testament (Genesis — Obadiah) and work with family members to do so as well.

Read the Word: Colossians 3:22 – 4:6

Disciple Your Kids

Discuss with family members what it is like to live, speak, and work in ways that point unbelievers to Christ and honor Him.



Key Truth: A Believer's Workplace Conduct Should Bring Honor to Christ (Colossians 3:22 – 4:1)

- Although Paul was writing to slaves and their masters in the culture of that day, the same principles apply to today's workplaces.
- Workers are to give sincere obedience, not mere compliance only when the boss is around. Whatever work they are assigned, they do it in a way that would please God. They work this way out of reverence for God, not men (verses 22-23).
- Since believers are actually serving Christ as they work, God will reward those who work hard and pay back those who do wrong on the job (verses 24-25).
- God will also judge employers. They are to treat their employees fairly, remembering they are accountable to their Master in Heaven (4:1).
- Christian employers and employees should live and work as Jesus would, reflecting integrity, honesty, dependability, and mutual respect in the workplace. This gives a marvelous witness to those who do not know Christ.



Key Truth: Prayer and Wise Living Help Us Influence Unbelievers (Colossians 4:2-6)

- Believers are to be devoted to prayer. They should take it seriously and keep on praying with thankful hearts (verse 2).
- Christians pray that God will open doors for us to clearly share the good news of Christ (verses 3-4).
- Believers should be wise in how they act and speak among unbelievers, always ready to represent Christ and speak for Him. They are to be gracious in their communication with everyone, especially unbelievers, and be ready to sensibly defend and explain their beliefs (verses 5-6).

Discussion Starters

Use one or more of the following questions as discussion starters with family members this week. Questions in **bold** will be good to use with elementary age children.

- **What does it look like for a believer to do his or her work** (chores, school work, jobs) **in a way that honors Christ?**
- How should those in charge treat those under them?
- What does it mean to be devoted to prayer?
- How does a Christian's wise and godly conduct help reach unbelievers with the gospel?
- How can we build people up instead of tearing them down with our speech and social media posts?
- In what way can I more fully do the work assigned to me in a way that brings glory to Christ?
- **Why is it important to do our jobs** (school, jobs, extracurricular activities, etc.) **with the right attitude?**
- **How does prayer and thankfulness affect our attitude?**
- **How does your attitude influence your behavior?**

Everyday Extras

Play "Worst Case Scenario" with your children. Propose a situation where they have a choice to obey or disobey. They can then take turns building a story about what happens if they do not make a good choice. For instance, if your children did not stay with you in the grocery store, as you asked them to, Child 1 starts by imagining that they would get lost in the store. Child 2 makes the scene worse by suggesting a stranger would stuff them in a shopping cart and head out of the store. Child 3 then makes the story worse by saying they would be dumped in the dumpster with stinky food and trash. (And yes, it could get even worse!) Our choices always have consequences. God wants what is best for everyone, so He shares His plan with us in the Bible. He wants children to obey their parents to help keep them safe.

Preschool Highlights for &

Today your child learned Jesus used God's Word to help Him say no to sin. The Bible helps us make right choices and follow God's way. Knowing what God's Word says helps us when the Devil tries to tempt us into making wrong choices. **The Bible Is for Everyone** and we can share what God's Word says to help others say no to the Devil and sin.