



August 10, 2025

South Sub Church

“Our Walk in Relationships”

Ephesians-Our Walk with Christ

Ephesians 5:18-6:9 (ESV) [verses 5:18-21 shown below]

. . . **but be filled with the Spirit**,¹⁹ addressing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody to the Lord with your heart,²⁰ giving thanks always and for everything to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ,²¹ **submitting to one another out of reverence for Christ.**

Sermon Summary:

Everyone desires to live a life of meaning. And there is no greater way to live with true purpose than through a deep, abiding relationship with Jesus. The Apostle Paul’s letter to the Ephesians reveals the key to experiencing this kind of life. In **Part I** of this series, we’ll explore the spiritual wealth we have as followers of Jesus—including the abundant blessings and divine wisdom available to us. In **Part II**, we’ll deepen our understanding of our spiritual position as believers and the responsibilities that come with it—how we are called to live out our faith in light of what Christ has done.

Ice Breaker Questions:

1. What’s a small thing that made you smile this week?
2. How have you seen God at work in one of your relationships recently—family, work, church, etc.?
3. Have you ever experienced a moment when following Jesus led you to put someone else’s needs ahead of your own? What happened?
4. When you hear the word “submission,” what feelings or ideas come to mind?

Scripture Study Questions:

1. How does “submitting to one another out of reverence for Christ” (Ephesians 5:21) set the tone for the rest of the passage?
2. How should we understand the call for wives to submit to their husbands “as to the Lord”? What cultural tensions does this raise today, and how can we approach them biblically?
3. How does Paul’s command for husbands to love their wives as Christ loved the church challenge our usual definitions of love and leadership?

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4. Why do you think honoring your father and mother comes with a promise? How might this principle still apply if a relationship with a parent is broken or hurtful?
5. Paul tells fathers not to provoke their children. What might that look like today, and how can parents apply discipline with grace?
6. What does it mean to work “as to the Lord and not to man”? How does this change your perspective on your current job, whether you enjoy it or not?
7. Masters (supervisors) are reminded that “there is no partiality with him [God].” How can anyone in a leadership position model humility and accountability, especially in the workplace?

Application Questions:

1. Why do you think Paul connects being filled with the Spirit (5:18) with how we treat each other in our relationships?
2. What does it look like to *cooperate* with someone in love, even when you don’t fully agree?
3. Where is God inviting you to persevere in love, even when it’s hard?
4. What does it mean to show respect to those in authority today—even if you’re not a child?
5. Are there ways your tone or expectations might discourage rather than build up others?
6. What would change if you saw your job (or daily responsibilities) as service to Christ?
7. Are there people you lead or influence whom you’ve been tempted to “threaten” rather than serve?