

## **Keys to Healthier Relationships - Colossians - Part VII**

### **Summary**

The sermon emphasizes the importance of preventative maintenance in our relationships, akin to maintaining a car. It draws parallels between the teachings in Colossians 3:18-25 and Ephesians 5:21-28, focusing on mutual submission, love, and respect within marriages, families, and workplaces. The message encourages us to treat others with reverence for Christ, recognizing that our actions towards others reflect our service to God. It challenges us to see Jesus in our relationships and to act with love, submission, and obedience, even in difficult situations.

### **Intro Prayer**

Heavenly Father, we come before You with open hearts, ready to receive Your wisdom and guidance. Help us to be receptive to Your teachings today and to apply them in our lives. May Your Holy Spirit guide our discussion and transform our relationships, so that we may honor You in all we do. Amen.

### **Ice Breaker**

What is one activity or hobby you find refreshing and helps you recharge?

### **Key Verses**

1. Colossians 3:18-25
2. Ephesians 5:21-28
3. John 13:34-35
4. Matthew 7:12

### **Questions**

1. Have you ever experienced chaos when trying to do something beneficial for yourself or your relationships? How did you handle it?
2. What does mutual submission mean to you, and how can it be applied in your relationships?
3. Why do you think the Bible emphasizes submission and love in marriage?
4. How can we practice seeing Jesus in our relationships, especially when it's challenging?
5. In what ways can we perform 'preventative maintenance' in our spiritual lives?
6. How do you handle situations where you feel someone is not treating you with respect?
7. What role does reverence for Christ play in how we treat others?
8. How can we encourage each other to grow in love, submission, and obedience?

### **Life Application**

This week, identify one relationship where you can practice seeing Jesus in the other person. Make a conscious effort to treat them with love, respect, and reverence for Christ, regardless of how they treat you.

### **Key Takeaways**

1. Preventative maintenance is crucial for healthy relationships.
2. Mutual submission and love are foundational in Christian relationships.
3. Our actions towards others reflect our service to God.
4. Seeing Jesus in others can transform how we interact with them.
5. Reverence for Christ should guide our behavior in all relationships.

**Ending Prayer**

Lord, thank You for the insights and challenges You've given us today. Help us to apply these lessons in our lives, treating others with the love and respect that honors You. May we see Jesus in everyone we encounter and serve them as if serving You. Empower us with Your Spirit to live out these truths this week. In Jesus' name, Amen.