

Leadership 601

The Epistles of Paul

Lesson 1

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Chronology of Paul's Career

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First Postconversion Visit to Jerusalem	35
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In Macedonia and Illyricum	55-56
In Corinth	winter 56-57
Arrival and Arrest in Jerusalem	May 57
Detention in Caesarea	57-59
Voyage to Rome	59-60
Under House Arrest in Rome	60-62
Outbreak of Neronian Persecution	64
Last Imprisonment, Trial, and Execution	65 (?)

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The Epistles of Paul

Lesson 2

The Centerpiece of Christ's Plan – The Church

In the passage we are studying today, Paul states that he has been given two responsibilities by Christ. These are:

I) His First Responsibility was to Preach the Gospel

The Gospel is the power of God unto salvation. This salvation occurs in three parts:

Justification

Sanctification

Glorification

- A) I have been saved. (When I asked Christ to be my Savior)
- B) I am being saved. (Every day as I appropriate the gospel message to my life)
- C) I will be saved. (At the marriage supper of the lamb)

Paul writes in 1 Corinthians 2:2: *For I resolved to know nothing while I was with you except Jesus Christ and him crucified.*

Answer these questions as it relates to the above 3 phases of gospel proclamation.

- (1) How does the gospel relate to each phase of salvation? Does it relate only to phase 1 or to all three aspects of salvation?
- (2) Among whom did Paul resolve to know nothing but the gospel.
- (3) What are the core elements of the gospel?

- (4) What does the gospel reveal about you? About God?
- (5) What role does faith have in relation to the gospel?

II) His Second Responsibility Was to Bring to Light The Administration of the Churches

Administration Comes from two Greek words:

- A) House (oikos)
- B) Law (nomos)

Literally, this means “house law”. Paul’s job was to reveal to the churches Christ’s plan for His church, which he did through his letters to them. This plan of putting Jews and Gentiles into one new community of faith is called by Paul, “*the mystery*” he was called to reveal. The idea of a mystery refers to something that was hidden in the past but is now revealed.

Romans 1:16-17

¹⁶ I am not ashamed of the gospel, because it is the power of God for the salvation of everyone who believes: first for the Jew, then for the Gentile. ¹⁷ For in the gospel a righteousness from God is revealed, a righteousness that is by faith from first to last, just as it is written: “The righteous will live by faith.”

Ephesians 2:18-3:11

¹⁸ Now all of us, both Jews and Gentiles, may come to the Father through the same Holy Spirit because of what Christ has done for us. ¹⁹ So now you Gentiles are no longer strangers and foreigners. You are citizens along with all of God's holy people. You are members of God's family. ²⁰ We are his house, built on the foundation of the apostles and the prophets. And the cornerstone is Christ Jesus himself. ²¹ We who believe are carefully joined together, becoming a holy temple for the Lord. ²² Through him you Gentiles are also joined together as part of this dwelling where God lives by his Spirit. ¹ I, Paul, am a prisoner of Christ Jesus because of my preaching to you Gentiles. ² As you already know, God has given me this special ministry of announcing his favor to you Gentiles. ³ As I briefly mentioned earlier in this letter, God himself revealed his secret plan to me. ⁴ As you read what I have written, you will understand what I know about this plan regarding Christ. ⁵ God did not reveal it to previous generations, but now he has revealed it by the Holy Spirit to his holy apostles and prophets. ⁶ And this is the secret plan: The Gentiles have an equal share with the Jews in all the riches inherited by God's children. Both groups have believed the Good News, and both are part of the same body and enjoy together the promise of blessings through Christ Jesus. ⁷ By God's special favor and mighty power, I have been given the wonderful privilege of serving him by spreading this Good News. ⁸ Just think! Though I did nothing to deserve it, and though I am the least deserving Christian there is, I was chosen for this special joy of telling the Gentiles about the endless treasures available to them in Christ. ⁹ I was chosen to explain to everyone this plan that God, the Creator of all things, had kept secret from the beginning. ¹⁰ God's purpose was to show his wisdom in all its rich variety to all the rulers and authorities in the heavenly realms. They will see this when Jews and Gentiles are joined together in his church. ¹¹ This was his plan from all eternity, and it has now been carried out through Christ Jesus our Lord.

Interpreting Paul

The Paul who in Acts 9:15 was the Lord's "chosen vessel" to bear His name before the Gentiles in the Epistles claimed to have been divinely set apart, even from birth, for this very purpose (Rom. 1:1 ; Gal. 1:15). The Paul who in Acts labored with his hands in Corinth and Ephesus and bade the Ephesian elders learn a lesson from him in this respect (Acts 18:3 ; 20:34) in the Epistles showed the same example and taught the same lesson to the Thessalonians and Corinthians (1 Thess. 2:9 ; 2 Thess. 3:8 ; 1 Cor. 9:18 ; 2 Cor. 11:7). The Paul who in Acts adapted so readily to Jew and Gentile, learned and unlearned, Areopagus and Sanhedrin, synagogue audience and city mob, Roman governor and King Agrippa, is the Paul who said in 1 Cor. 9:19 , "though I am from all, I have made myself the slave of all, that I might win the more. To the Jews I was as a Jew, that I might win the Jews; to those under the law, as under the law (not being myself under the law), that I might win those under law; to those without law, as without law (not being without law toward God, but under the law of Christ), that might win those without law; to the weak I was weak, that I might win the weak; I have become all things to all men, that by all means I might save some."²

We cannot interpret the New Testament letters of Paul without Understanding His Office and Calling!

Answer These Questions for Further Understanding;

- 1) Is it necessary today that we follow Christ's plan for the church as revealed by Paul? How do you know it is not outdated?
- 2) Is it important that we make the church central to our life plans?
- 3) Should we read the letters of Paul as addressed only to us as individuals or does he have another intent in writing them?
- 4) How important is understanding the author's original intent to understanding Scripture?
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What is a Church?

We studied in the last lesson Paul's job description found in Ephesians 2:18-3:11. We would encourage you to take Discipleship 301 or Gospel Transformation 401 for a thorough discussion of the gospel and how to appropriate it to your life. In this course we want to focus on the second aspect of Paul's job description, namely his administration of the churches.

We must start by asking the question: **What is a New Testament Church?**

Description of a New Testament Local Church

What Do We Learn From Biblical Passages About the Local Church

Premise 1: The Church is a Visible Community of People Formed in a Locality and made up of Believers.

Acts 2:42-47

⁴² They joined with the other believers and devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, sharing in the Lord's Supper and in prayer. ⁴³ A deep sense of awe came over them all, and the apostles performed many miraculous signs and wonders. ⁴⁴ And all the believers met together constantly and shared everything they had. ⁴⁵ They sold their possessions and shared the proceeds with those in need. ⁴⁶ They worshiped together at the Temple each day, met in homes for the Lord's Supper, and shared their meals with great joy and generosity— ⁴⁷ all the while praising God and enjoying the goodwill of all the people. And each day the Lord added to their group those who were being saved.

Matthew 18:17

¹⁷ If that person still refuses to listen, take your case to the church. If the church decides you are right, but the other person won't accept it, treat that person as a pagan or a corrupt tax collector.

Acts 13:1-2

¹ Among the prophets and teachers of the **church at Antioch** of Syria were Barnabas, Simeon (called "the black man"), Lucius (from Cyrene), Manaen (the childhood companion of King Herod Antipas), and Saul. ² One day as these men

were worshiping the Lord and fasting, the Holy Spirit said, “Dedicate Barnabas and Saul for the special work I have for them.”

Romans 16:16

¹⁶ Greet each other in Christian love. All the churches of Christ send you their greetings.

2 Corinthians 11:28

²⁸ Then, besides all this, I have the daily burden of how the churches are getting along.

Romans 16:3-4

³ Greet Priscilla and Aquila. They have been co-workers in my ministry for Christ Jesus. ⁴ In fact, they risked their lives for me. I am not the only one who is thankful to them; so are all the Gentile churches.

1 Corinthians 4:17

¹⁷ That is the very reason I am sending Timothy—to help you do this. For he is my beloved and trustworthy child in the Lord. He will remind you of what I teach about Christ Jesus in all the churches wherever I go.

Premise 2: The Churches Had Regular Meetings Together

1 Corinthians 16:2

² On every Lord’s Day, each of you should put aside some amount of money in relation to what you have earned and save it for this offering. Don’t wait until I get there and then try to collect it all at once.

Acts 20:7

⁷ On the first day of the week, we gathered to observe the Lord’s Supper. Paul was preaching; and since he was leaving the next day, he talked until midnight.

Premise 3: Churches Were Instructed to Have Church Officers

There was form given to the structure

Acts 14:23

²³ Paul and Barnabas also appointed elders in every church and prayed for them with fasting, turning them over to the care of the Lord, in whom they had come to trust.

Acts 20:28

²⁸ “And now beware! Be sure that you feed and shepherd God’s flock—his church, purchased with his blood—over whom the Holy Spirit has appointed you as elders.

1 Timothy 5:17

¹⁷ Elders who do their work well should be paid well, especially those who work hard at both preaching and teaching.

Acts 6:1-6

¹ But as the believers rapidly multiplied, there were rumblings of discontent. Those who spoke Greek complained against those who spoke Hebrew, saying that their widows were being discriminated against in the daily distribution of food. ² So the Twelve called a meeting of all the believers. “We apostles should spend our time preaching and teaching the word of God, not administering a food program,” they said. ³ “Now look around among yourselves, brothers, and select seven men who are well respected and are full of the Holy Spirit and wisdom. We will put them in charge of this business. ⁴ Then we can spend our time in prayer and preaching and teaching the word.” ⁵ This idea pleased the whole group, and they chose the following: Stephen (a man full of faith and the Holy Spirit), Philip, Procorus, Nicanor, Timon, Parmenas, and Nicolas of Antioch (a Gentile convert to the Jewish faith, who had now become a Christian). ⁶ These seven were presented to the apostles, who prayed for them as they laid their hands on them.

Premise 4: They Practiced Certain Ordinances

1 Corinthians 11:23

²³ For this is what the Lord himself said, and I pass it on to you just as I received it. On the night when he was betrayed, the Lord Jesus took a loaf of bread,

1 Corinthians 11:25

²⁵ In the same way, he took the cup of wine after supper, saying, “ This cup is the new covenant between God and you, sealed by the shedding of my blood. Do this in remembrance of me as often as you drink it. ”

Acts 19:5

⁵ As soon as they heard this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus.

1 Corinthians 1:13-17

¹³ Can Christ be divided into pieces? Was I, Paul, crucified for you? Were any of you baptized in the name of Paul? ¹⁴ I thank God that I did not baptize any of you except Crispus and Gaius, ¹⁵ for now no one can say they were baptized in my name. ¹⁶ (Oh yes, I also baptized the household of Stephanas. I don't remember baptizing anyone else.) ¹⁷ For Christ didn't send me to baptize, but to preach the Good News—and not with clever speeches and high-sounding ideas, for fear that the cross of Christ would lose its power.

Premise 4: The Church Was On Mission with God in the World (They Reproduced Themselves)

Acts 13:1-3 (NLT)

¹ Among the prophets and teachers of the church at Antioch of Syria were Barnabas, Simeon (called “the black man”), Lucius (from Cyrene), Manaen (the childhood companion of King Herod Antipas), and Saul. ² One day as these men were worshiping the Lord and fasting, the Holy Spirit said, “Dedicate Barnabas and Saul for the special work I have for them.” ³ So after more fasting and prayer, the men laid their hands on them and sent them on their way.

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⁵ All scripture quoted in this lesson is from the *Holy Bible : New Living Translation*. Wheaton, Ill.: Tyndale House, 1997.

Questions for Consideration

1. Would you consider a group of people who gather together for a Bible study or for a specific ministry to be a church? Why or why not?
2. Would you consider a group of believers joining other believers to accomplish a larger ministry project, a church. Why or why not?
3. What principles would guide your understanding to answering the above questions?

Grace Brethren North American Missions Definition of a Church

A local church is a group of people committed to following the Lord Jesus Christ and the teaching of scripture, under the oversight of at least one elder or pastor, who worship together regularly, celebrate the ordinances and make disciples.

Establishing Churches

The Priority of Establishing Churches

Paul's mindset for administrating the churches began with his concept of strengthening them. We see the cycle of this establishing process in Acts 14: 21-23

Acts 14:21-23 (NLT)

²¹ After preaching the Good News in Derbe and making many disciples, Paul and Barnabas returned again to Lystra, Iconium, and Antioch of Pisidia, ²² where they strengthened the believers. They encouraged them to continue in the faith, reminding them that they must enter into the Kingdom of God through many tribulations. ²³ Paul and Barnabas also appointed elders in every church and prayed for them with fasting, turning them over to the care of the Lord, in whom they had come to trust.

In Phase 1: He gathered the Christians into a community.

In Phase 2: He strengthened the believers.

In Phase 3: He appointed elders.

In Phase 4: He commended the churches to God and continued to establish them both by letters and by visits.

Paul's Concept of Establishing

- Greek word "sterizo" – gives the sense of strengthening, establishing, supporting, and/or stabilizing
- Key verses: Acts 1:1-2; 15:36-16:5; 18:22-23; Romans ;8-15; 16:25-27; 1 Thessalonians 3:1-13; 2 Thessalonians 2:17; 2 Peter 3:14-17

1 Thessalonians 3:2

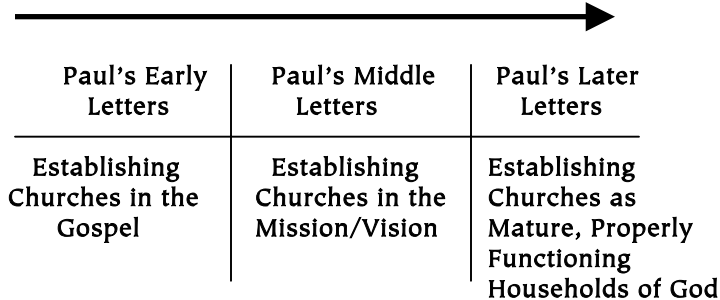
and we sent Timothy to visit you. He is our co-worker for God and our brother in proclaiming the Good News of Christ. We sent him to strengthen you, to encourage you in your faith,

The Priority of Establishing

The establishing process illustrates a very important pattern in Paul's ministry priorities. He would often put the establishing process of existing churches above open doors for the gospel (see 2 Corinthians 2:1-14).

Paul's Letters as Establishing Tools

The Process of Becoming Fully Established



Paul's Early Letters	Paul's Middle Letters	Paul's Later Letters
Establishing Churches in the Gospel	Establishing Churches in the Mission/Vision	Establishing Churches as Mature, Properly Functioning Households of God

What are the Effects of Not Being Established? Note Paul's Early Letters

Galatians: Grounding a Church in the Gospel and Its Implications

What were the primary problems facing the Galatia church?

- Legalism
- A spying attitude
- A critical, jealous, and angry spirit

Thessalonians: Grounding the Church in the Gospel and Its Implications

What were the primary problems facing the Thessalonica Church?

- Doctrinal "bunny trails" especially regarding prophecy
- Irresponsible lifestyles

Corinthians: Grounding the Church in the Gospel and Its implications

What were the primary problems facing the Corinthian Church?

- Divisions throughout the church regarding teachers, moral practices, divorce and remarriage, legalism, authority, gifts and ministries etc.

- Rejecting those who teach, exhort, and correct within the church and giving heed to those who undermine their integrity.

Romans: Grounding the Church in the Gospel and Its Implications

What were the primary problems facing the Church in Rome?

- Failure to become free from life controlling problems
- Failure to live according to conscience and judging others on issues of conscience

Paul's Middle Letters

Ephesians Written from a desire to see young churches become one-minded around the person and plan of Christ.

What were the primary problems facing the church in Ephesus?

- No corporate sense of power being unleashed in the church
- An inability to stand firm against the schemes of the devil
- Each person not maturely doing his or her part to build up the church

Colossians Written from a desire to see young churches become one-minded around the person and plan of Christ.

What were the primary problems facing the church in Colossae?

- Buying another philosophy with a different center and guiding principles, than those of Christ
- Minds set on earthly things, bringing disharmony into the church and home

Philippians Written from a desire to see young churches become one-minded around the person and plan of Christ.

What were the primary problems facing the church in Philippi?

- Inability of the whole church to strive together with one mind for the progress of the gospel
- Some refuse to strive together with others or with the group

Philemon **Written from a desire to see young churches become one-minded around the person and plan of Christ.**

What were the primary problems facing Philemon?

- Lack of real life examples of being one-minded participation in the plan of Christ.

Paul's Later Letters

1 Timothy **Written from a desire to see the young churches become mature households of God, properly ordered, and led by mature men.**

What were the key problems Timothy faced?

- Inability of the churches to avoid deceitful spirits and doctrines of demons

2 Timothy **Written from a desire to see the young churches become mature households of God, properly ordered, and led by mature men.**

What were the key problems Timothy faced?

- People will accumulate teachers who will tell them what they want to hear
- Many will fall away from the faith

Titus **Written from a desire to see the young churches become mature households of God, properly ordered, and led by mature men.**

What were the problems Titus faced?

- Many will come in and upset whole families
- Lives will not adorn the gospel; instead the Word of God will be dishonored

- Good deeds will be replaced by foolish controversies

Unless believers are thoroughly strengthened fully prepared leaders will not emerge.

Paul's Understanding of The Church as a Family of Families

The idea of the household of God is central to Paul's thought.

Ephesians 2:19-20 (NIV)

¹⁹Consequently, you are no longer foreigners and aliens, but fellow citizens with God's people and members of God's household, ²⁰built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the chief cornerstone.⁶

Remember the second part of Paul's job description underlined below from Ephesians 3:8-10.

⁸ Although I am less than the least of all God's people, this grace was given me: to preach to the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ, ⁹and to make plain to everyone the administration of this mystery, which for ages past was kept hidden in God, who created all things. ¹⁰ His intent was that now, through the church, the manifold wisdom of God should be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly realms

This idea of the church as God's household that must be set in order runs throughout Paul and the above underlined passage shows us Paul's burden to set in order the household of God.

Now let's look at this passage from 1 Timothy 3:14-16

¹⁴ Although I hope to come to you soon, I am writing you these instructions so that, ¹⁵ if I am delayed, you will know how people ought to conduct themselves in God's household, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and foundation of the truth. ¹⁶ Beyond all question, the mystery of godliness is great: He appeared in a body, was vindicated by the Spirit, was seen by angels, was preached among the nations, was believed on in the world, was taken up in glory.

Here are some of the things in the household of God that must be ordered:

⁶ All quotations are taken from *The Holy Bible : New International Version*. electronic ed. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1996, c1984.

- 1) The church relating to one another as a family 5:2
- 2) Responsibility to take care of widows 5:3-16
- 3) Leadership qualification 3:1-8
- 4) Others:

Why does all this matter to Christ?

There is a relationship between the truth and the household order in the local church.

Notice what Paul tells Titus in 1:5

⁵ The reason I left you in Crete was that you might straighten out what was left unfinished and appoint elders in every town, as I directed you.

This was important to Paul because the church that was not set in order and not living by the household codes of God was susceptible to the following

Titus 1:10-11

For there are many rebellious people, mere talkers and deceivers, especially those of the circumcision group. ¹¹ They must be silenced, because they are ruining whole households by teaching things they ought not to teach—and that for the sake of dishonest gain.

Therefore, one of the keys why the church must be set in order is because the truth is at stake, and the church is the pillar and foundation of the truth.

Consider this commentary regarding the church as the household of God and the importance of this concept:

“It is basic to understand that the church belongs to God. In no sense is it a human institution. It is God’s church, His family.

Although *oikos* (**household**) could be translated “house,” and refer to a building, the NASB rendering **household** is preferable. *Oikos* is so used in 3:4 , 5 , 12 ; 2 Timothy 1:16 ; and Titus 1:11 . Paul’s metaphor here is not that of a building, but of a family. Believers are members of God’s household, and the responsibility to conduct themselves accordingly is heaven’s mandate to them. In Ephesians 2:19 , Paul emphasizes the same truth: “So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are fellow citizens with the saints, and are of God’s household.” The idea of the church as the household of God also appears in Galatians 6:10 ; Hebrews 3:6 ; and 1 Peter 4:17 .

Paul further defines the assembly of believers as **the church of the living God**, or “the living God’s church.” The absence of the definite article with **church** stresses its character. The church by its very nature belongs to the living God. In fact, Paul told the Ephesian elders at the gathering at Miletus that the church of God was truly His because He had “purchased [it] with His own blood” (Acts 20:28). In his letter to Ephesus, he had called the church “God’s own possession, to the praise of His glory” (Eph. 1:14 ; cf. . Titus 2:14 ; 1 Peter 2:9 ; Rev. 5:9). The identification of the Creator as **the living God** has a rich Old Testament heritage. Joshua told the Israelites, “By this you shall know that the living God is among you, and that He will assuredly dispossess from before you the Canaanite, the Hittite, the Hivite, the Perizzite, the Girgashite, the Amorite, and the Jebusite” (Josh. 3:10). David was incensed that Goliath should “taunt the armies of the living God” (1 Sam. 17:26). The psalmist wrote, “My soul thirsts for God, for the living God; when shall I come and appear before God?” (Ps. 42:2), and, “My soul longed and even yearned for the courts of the Lord; my heart and my flesh sing for joy to the living God” (Ps. 84:2). Jeremiah wrote, “The Lord is the true God; He is the living God and the everlasting King” (Jer. 10:10). The description of the Ephesian assembly as the living God’s church was especially apropos. It was the island of light in a dark sea of pagan worship. Crucial to behaving properly is the knowledge that the assembly of saints is the living God’s church in the world of dead idols, and that it is mandated and empowered for a divine mission and a divine message.”⁷

NASB New American Standard Bible
cf. *confer* (Lat.), compare

⁷MacArthur, John F. *First Timothy*. MacArthur New Testament commentary, 1 Ti 3:16. Chicago: Moody, 1995.

Living in the Family The Household Codes

Ephesians 5:22-33

²² Wives, submit to your husbands as to the Lord. ²³ For the husband is the head of the wife as Christ is the head of the church, his body, of which he is the Savior. ²⁴ Now as the church submits to Christ, so also wives should submit to their husbands in everything. ²⁵ Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her ²⁶ to make her holy, cleansing her by the washing with water through the word, ²⁷ and to present her to himself as a radiant church, without stain or wrinkle or any other blemish, but holy and blameless. ²⁸ In this same way, husbands ought to love their wives as their own bodies. He who loves his wife loves himself. ²⁹ After all, no one ever hated his own body, but he feeds and cares for it, just as Christ does the church— ³⁰ for we are members of his body. ³¹ “For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and the two will become one flesh.” ³² This is a profound mystery—but I am talking about Christ and the church. ³³ However, each one of you also must love his wife as he loves himself, and the wife must respect her husband.

Colossians 3:1-19 (NIV)

¹ Since, then, you have been raised with Christ, set your hearts on things above, where Christ is seated at the right hand of God. ² Set your minds on things above, not on earthly things. ³ For you died, and your life is now hidden with Christ in God. ⁴ When Christ, who is your life, appears, then you also will appear with him in glory. ⁵ Put to death, therefore, whatever belongs to your earthly nature: sexual immorality, impurity, lust, evil desires and greed, which is idolatry. ⁶ Because of these, the wrath of God is coming. ⁷ You used to walk in these ways, in the life you once lived. ⁸ But now you must rid yourselves of all such things as these: anger, rage, malice, slander, and filthy language from your lips. ⁹ Do not lie to each other, since you have taken off your old self with its practices ¹⁰ and have put on the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge in the image of its Creator. ¹¹ Here there is no Greek or Jew, circumcised or uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave or free, but Christ is all, and is in all. ¹² Therefore, as God’s chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience. ¹³ Bear with each other and forgive whatever grievances you may have against one another. Forgive as the Lord forgave you. ¹⁴ And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity. ¹⁵ Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you were called to peace. And be thankful. ¹⁶ Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom, and as you sing psalms, hymns and spiritual songs with gratitude in your hearts to God. ¹⁷ And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to

God the Father through him. ¹⁸ Wives, submit to your husbands, as is fitting in the Lord. ¹⁹ Husbands, love your wives and do not be harsh with them.

1 Peter 3:1-9

¹ Wives, in the same way be submissive to your husbands so that, if any of them do not believe the word, they may be won over without words by the behavior of their wives, ² when they see the purity and reverence of your lives. ³ Your beauty should not come from outward adornment, such as braided hair and the wearing of gold jewelry and fine clothes. ⁴ Instead, it should be that of your inner self, the unfading beauty of a gentle and quiet spirit, which is of great worth in God's sight. ⁵ For this is the way the holy women of the past who put their hope in God used to make themselves beautiful. They were submissive to their own husbands, ⁶ like Sarah, who obeyed Abraham and called him her master. You are her daughters if you do what is right and do not give way to fear. ⁷ Husbands, in the same way be considerate as you live with your wives, and treat them with respect as the weaker partner and as heirs with you of the gracious gift of life, so that nothing will hinder your prayers. ⁸ Finally, all of you, live in harmony with one another; be sympathetic, love as brothers, be compassionate and humble. ⁹ Do not repay evil with evil or insult with insult, but with blessing, because to this you were called so that you may inherit a blessing.⁸

Make a List of Roles and Responsibilities in the Family

Husbands

Responsibilities

Roles

⁸All scripture taken from *The Holy Bible : New International Version*. electronic ed. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1996, c1984.

Wives
Responsibilities

Roles

Children
Responsibilities

Roles

Slaves
Responsibilities

Roles

Masters
Responsibilities

Roles

Others?
Responsibilities

Roles