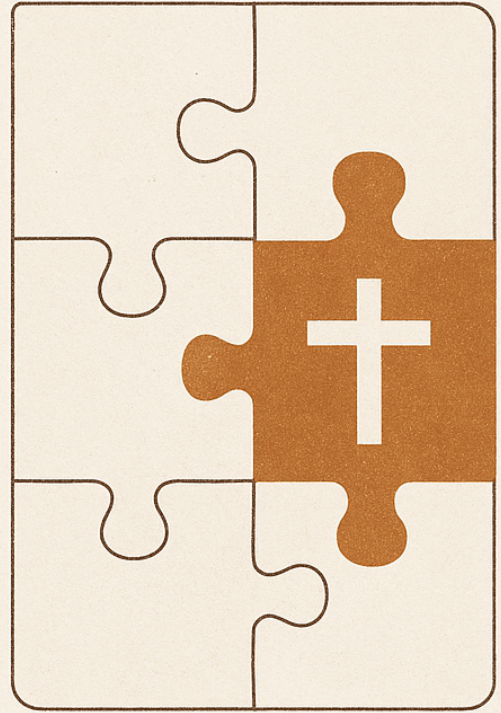


COMPLETE IN CHRIST

A STUDY THROUGH
COLOSSIANS



06: New Creation Homes

Colossians 3:18-4:1

Series: *Complete In Christ*

Steve Ellis | November 02, 2025

Who is a leader, manager, or teacher you respected?

Why?

 **notes**

Exploring The Passage

Colossians 3:18–4:1 (NIV)

“Wives, submit yourselves to your husbands, as is fitting in the Lord. ¹⁹ Husbands, love your wives and do not be harsh with them. ²⁰ Children, obey your parents in everything, for this pleases the Lord. ²¹ Fathers, do not embitter your children, or they will become discouraged. ²² Slaves, obey your earthly masters in everything; and do it, not only when their eye is on you and to curry their favor, but with sincerity of heart and reverence for the Lord. ²³ Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for human masters, ²⁴ since you know that you will receive an inheritance from the Lord as a reward. It is the Lord Christ you are serving. ²⁵ Anyone who does wrong will be repaid for their wrongs, and there is no favoritism. Masters, provide your slaves with what is right and fair, because you know that you also have a Master in heaven.” (1)

New Creation People in Ordinary Relationships

The church is a new creation community, people who have “**put on the** _____

_____” and are being
“_____ **in knowledge in the image of its Creator.**” (see Col. 3:10).

Love, Respect, and Listen

Three words summarize the spirit of Paul’s teaching; love, respect, and honor.

a. Love (ἀγαπάω, *agapaō*) — To love dearly

b. Respect (ὑποτάσσω, *hypotassō*) — Voluntary Alignment Under the Lord

c. Listen (ὑπακούω, *hypakouō*) — To listen, to obey

The Head of the Household

Christ is the true Head of every Christian household. His authority is the model for all human relationships. Under His reign:



Love replaces _____

Respect replaces _____

Listening replaces _____

Crossing The Context

In our homes, and communities, these principles still speak powerfully:

- **Husbands and wives live out _____ and _____ love.**

- **Parents _____, not _____, their children.**

- **Leaders treat those under their care with _____ and _____, remembering they too have a Master in heaven.**

New creation homes love one another as they love and submit to their Head, Christ.

Endnotes:

1. Scripture quotations, unless otherwise noted, are from the *Holy Bible, New International Version®*, NIV®. Copyright ©1973, 1978, 1984, 2011 by Biblica, Inc.™ Used by permission. All rights reserved worldwide.

2. **Craig S. Keener**, *The IVP Bible Background Commentary: New Testament*, 2nd ed. (Downers Grove, IL: IVP Academic, 2014), p. 578.

Keener notes that Paul's instructions draw from Greco-Roman "Household Codes" but redefine them through Christ's example. The result is a community where social hierarchy gives way to mutual love and respect, and each member of the household is valued as an equal before God.

3. **Ian Paul**, "Aristotle and the Household Codes," Psephizo, accessed October 2025, <https://www.psephizo.com/life-ministry/aristotle-and-the-household-codes/>. Paul explains that Aristotle's *Politics* (Book 1) outlined the classical Household Code, which placed the male head as ruler over his wife, children, and slaves, each governed by reason or lack thereof. This code emphasized hierarchy, authority, and obedience to maintain social order within the empire. Reading Aristotle's original structure helps modern students see how radically Paul's teaching in Colossians 3:18–4:1 differs, centering the home on mutual service under the Lordship of Christ rather than on patriarchal dominance.

