

**“How’s Your House?”**  
*Colossians 3:18-21*

Control is a constant issue in Paul’s epistle, and such is the case again today as we look briefly at how a house should be run.

A word to wives, 3:18

\*Theme of *submitting*: Eph. 5:22, I Pt. 3:1,5, Titus 2:5, I Cor. 11:3.  
This is a strong term used in Lk. 2:51, 10:17, Js. 4:7, Rom. 13:1,5.  
It’s coupled with *fear* in Eph. 5:33 (never reversed). Christianity not unique here, but its reciprocal duties are. Motivation = *as is fitting in the Lord*.

\*Submission does not suggest inferiority except when it’s us to God, e.g. Jesus submitted to parents, the Father, and we submit to each other (Eph. 5:21) and to Government (Rom. 13:1).

\*Submission suggests. . .

A word to husbands, 3:19

\*Pos: *love*, which is emphasized for husbands (Eph. 5:25, 28, 32).  
Neg: *don’t be embittered* (typically verbal—Rom. 3:14, Eph. 4:31)  
Loving leadership is much less hard to follow!  
Motivation = none here, but see Eph. 5

\*Love suggests. . . (Eph. 5:25-29, 33, I Pt. 3:7, I Cor. 7:33, 13:4-8)

\*No bitterness suggests. . .

A word to dads, 3:21

\*Don’t provoke by discipline or by too high of expectations, Eph. 6:4  
Motivation = *don’t create discouraged / timid kids*

A word to children, 3:20

\*Obeying parents is beneficial elsewhere, Ex. 20:12, Eph. 6:1-3  
Motivation = *pleasing to God as much as to parents*