



5 Proofs of a Positively Christian Family

Proof #1:

Wives _____ **to their** _____.

Colossians 3:18--Wives, submit to your husbands, as is fitting in the Lord.
Ephesians 5:22-24,33b--Wives, submit to your husbands as to the Lord. 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. Now as the church submits to Christ, so also wives should submit to their husbands in everything. ... The wife must respect her husband.

>> Submission: _____ **one's** _____.

Ephesians 5:21--Submit to one another out of reverence for Christ.

Proof #2:

Husbands _____ **their** _____.

Colossians 3:19--Husbands, love your wives and do not be harsh with them.
Ephesians 5:25,33a--Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her...However, each one of you also must love his wife as he loves himself...

>> 2 Responsibilities:

1. _____ your wife.
2. Don't be _____.

Proof #3:

Children _____ **their** _____.

Colossians 3:20--Children, obey your parents in everything, for this pleases the Lord.
Ephesians 6:1-3--Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. "Honor your father and mother"—which is the first commandment with a promise—"that it may go well with you and that you may enjoy long life on the earth."

Acts 5:29--Peter and the other apostles replied: "We must obey God rather than men!"

Proof #4:

Parents _____ **their** _____.

Colossians 3:21--Fathers, do not embitter your children, or they will become discouraged.

Ephesians 6:4--Fathers, do not exasperate your children; instead, bring them up in the training and instruction of the Lord.

Construct Crucial Qualities

1. _____ a positive _____.
2. _____ a strong _____.
3. _____ a sincere _____ to Jesus Christ.
4. _____ a _____ for others and the ability to _____ with others effectively.
5. _____ in the ability to make wise _____.

Proof #5:

Everyone _____.

Colossians 3:22-4:1--Slaves, obey your earthly masters in everything; and do it, not only when their eye is on you and to win their favor, but with sincerity of heart and reverence for the Lord. Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for men, since you know that you will receive an inheritance from the Lord as a reward. It is the Lord Christ you are serving. Anyone who does wrong will be repaid for his wrong, 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.

See also **Ephesians 6:5-9**.

>> Work _____.

>> Work for _____.

>> Work with _____ **for** _____.

Small Group Discussion Questions:

1. What does a Christian family look like? Discuss.
2. Review the points and verses from this lesson. What personal application can you make from this teaching?
3. Talk about the key words in today's message: submit, love, obey, encourage, and work. Why are they vital, and how can family members help each other step up to God's standard?
4. Walk through Ephesians 5:22-6:9 and compare it to today's text. Point out similarities and uniquenesses.
5. Take some time right now to pray for the needs of those in your small group.