



Influence

Study Verse: Ephesians 6:1-17 WEV

A letter from Paul to the church of Ephes^{US}

Ephesians 6:1-17 Children, obey your parents as the Lord wants you to. This is the right thing to do. *Respect your father and mother.* This is the first law of God with a promise: So that all will be well with you, and that you may live long on earth. *Fathers,* do not make your children angry. But *teach them the things children need to know,* and tell them what they must not do. *Teach them what Christ would teach them.*

Servants, obey your boss. Respect him with all your heart and try to please him as you would Christ. Obey not only when he is looking at you, as if you were pleasing a man. But obey as the servants of Christ, and do with all your heart what God wants you to do. Work gladly as if you were working for the Lord and not for men. You know that the Lord will pay every man for the good things he does. It does not matter if he is a servant or a free man.

And you who are *bosses, be good to your servants also. Do not talk loud, hard words to them. Remember that both their Lord and yours is in heaven. He does not love one person more than another.*

Last of all, I say this. *Be strong in the Lord and use the strength he gives. Use everything that God has given you so that you can fight against the tricks of the devil. We are not fighting against people of flesh and blood. But we are fighting against rulers and powers whom we cannot see. We are fighting against those who control the darkness of this world, and against bad spirits who have power in the air. So use everything that God has given you, that you can fight when the bad time comes. You will need to do everything you can do to stand! So then, stand and hold on tight to the truth like you put on a belt. Do what is right. Wear it as a cover for your body. You have the good news of peace. Wear that like shoes on your feet. You*

believe in God. Take that and cover all of yourself with it. With that you can stop all the poison arrows of the devil. You have been saved. Wear your salvation like you wear something on your head to protect yourself. And take with you the big knife or sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God. Always talk to God in the Spirit. Talk to him about everything and ask him for what you need. Put your mind on what you are saying, asking God to help all his people.

My Thoughts: (please understand this is meant in a generalized statement not a direct judgement toward anyone.) Today is a long study of scripture, but it is filled with so much wisdom and truth I could not pick it apart. The influence of truth (God's word) when accepted and practiced daily can create a person of honor and respect in a world of ignorance. (I do not intend to be negative or judgmental but of love and grace),

Society is now built upon a very self centered and greedy foundation. Our Constitution was built upon the influence of the word of God, sadly is no longer the statute. Christianity was once a dominant influence in society, life and personal standards. Standards influenced by the Bible, by the teachings of the word of God. What happened? How did this change? At some point in time we as a society became influenced by evilness. We failed to put on our armour of God every day. We have become desensitized and acceptant to less than God's standards. The respect a person earned by the daily example lived is now demanded by alpha dominant personalities. "What can you do for me today?" is more prominent than kindness, grace and sincere helpfulness. The influence of leadership of Society is a sad perverted acceptable mindset.

How do we change it??? Just as it changed previously, One person (me/you) making a choice to be... Influential, following God and all he teaches; to stand, put on His armour, fight every single day to be a Godly influence to the society that we live in. Build your relationships and home upon God's word. Include Him in your vows and live them. Be persistent in front of your children. Teach them in a manner according to God's word. Be the proof that Jesus lives and is tangibly real through the Holy Spirit. Allow your persistent daily choice to flow over into your workplace or daily routine. Let the person behind you in line, the person checking you out, the server at a restaurant, wherever you are.. See a better choice

that is available to be accepted. It is time to turn the world back toward God. Not by judgment and condemnation, or acceptance, but by being obedient, submissive, and receptive to the will of God first.

It is not an easy fight, the biggest battle is within yourself, but it will become a little easier as the awareness becomes stronger within you.

Until next time, May God bless, heal, protect, and grow in you daily, Everyone say, AMEN