

## Digging Deeper: Ephesians 6:5-9

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### Bondservants and Masters

<sup>5</sup>Bondservants, obey your earthly masters with fear and trembling, with a sincere heart, as you would Christ, <sup>6</sup>not by the way of eye-service, as people-pleasers, but as bondservants of Christ, doing the will of God from the heart, <sup>7</sup>rendering service with a good will as to the Lord and not to man, <sup>8</sup>knowing that whatever good anyone does, this he will receive back from the Lord, whether he is a bondservant or is free. <sup>9</sup>Masters, do the same to them, and stop your threatening, knowing that he who is both their Master and yours is in heaven, and that there is no partiality with him.<sup>1</sup>

### Day 1

This week we will look into the role of master-slave and boss-employee and the general area of submission. Today, read the entire passages above, Ephesians 6:5–9, and spend some time praying through these scriptures and meditating on them. Ask the Holy Spirit to illuminate these passages to your mind and heart today.

### Day 2

Today, read Ephesians 5:5. Some translations use the word bondservant and some use slave. The Greek word is *doulos*. Look up this word, and study its meaning. Now consider what does it mean to be a *doulos* to Christ—doing the will of God from the heart. Compare forced labor to labor that’s done out of love; consider this verse: “FOR the love of Christ compels me...” (2 Corinthians 5:14).

### Day 3

Today, let’s consider the word masters, which some translations use the word Lord; the Greek word is *kyrios*. This word, or its derivatives are used 713 times in the Bible. What is its meaning in this passage? What analogy is Paul drawing? Spend some time praying about your Lord in your life today.

### Day 4

Today, we will look at other passages that can instruct on these passages. Look up and consider: Philippians 2:12, 1 Peter 2:18, 2 Corinthians 7:15 and 2 Corinthians 9:11. Pray and meditate over these verses as they instruct on the verses we are studying this week.

### Day 5

Today, read Ephesians 5:9. Consider the behavior and attitude commanded by this verse to masters. Consider the command “stop your threatening.” Consider Colossians 4:1. Scripture commands justice and fairness. Now consider the great command to “love our neighbor as ourselves.” How does this apply?

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<sup>1</sup> [The Holy Bible: English Standard Version](#). (2016). (Eph 6:5–9). Wheaton, IL: Crossway Bibles.

**Day 6**

Finally, today, we will consider the attribute of God of not having any partiality. What is partiality? Consider Romans 2:11 and Colossians 3:25. Our Holy God is complete and perfect in His judgement. He is no respecter of persons. Why is this good news to the saved? Why is this tragic news to the unsaved? Today, preach the Gospel to yourself and consider the price paid for your sin. Envision that day when you stand in awe and wonder before our great King!