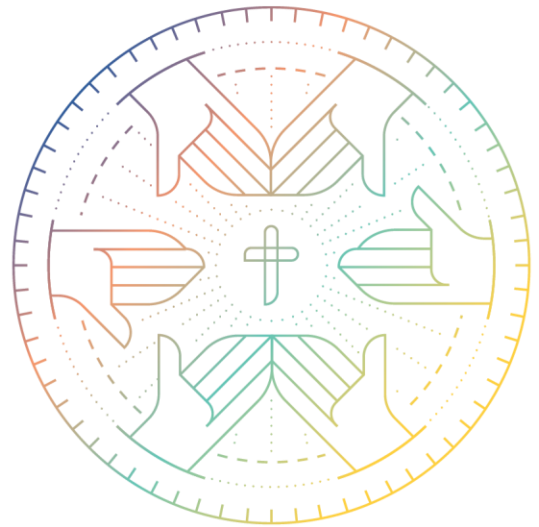


# Group Life.

WE ARE BETTER TOGETHER



## ICEBREAKER (10 MINUTES)

What is the first job you ever had, how old were you and what did you learn from that job?

## INTRODUCTION (5-10 MINUTES)

In this week's passage, Paul continues to discuss mutual submission first mentioned in Ephesians 5:21, and how that plays out in the workplace. Paul speaks to the context of the day in the working relationship between bondservants and masters. It is important to note that racial factors played no role in who was considered a bondservant. Many bondservants reasonably expected to gain their freedom during their lifetime with many becoming free by age 30. Bondservants worked in a variety of specialized and responsible positions including supervising and managing other people. Many bondservants received education and training in specialized skills and performed important roles in society including doctors and politicians. Finally, freed bondservants often became Roman citizens and developed a client relationship with their former masters.

## INTO THE WORD (25 MINUTES)

1. Read Ephesians 6:5-8. What words stick out to you from this passage?
2. Read 1 Peter 2:13-18. Peter mirrors Paul's view of authority in Ephesians. What sticks out to you about how we should treat authority in our lives?
3. Read Ephesians 6:7-8 and Colossians 3:17,23-24. What sticks out from these two passages and how does this inform the way that you view the work that you do?

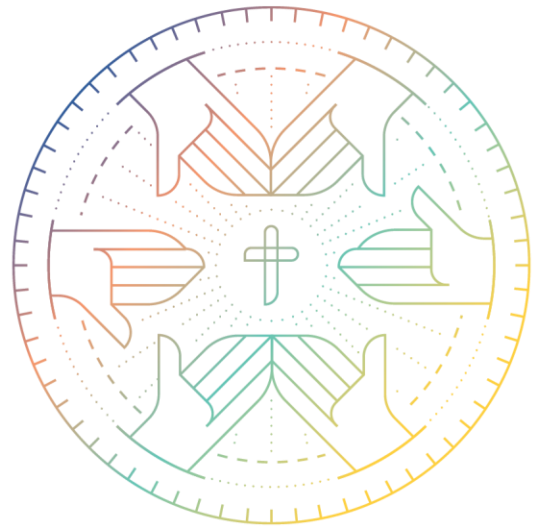
## APPLICATION (25 MINUTES)

1. **Do you find yourself gravitating more towards prioritizing work above everything else or trying to survive work in order to do the things you actually want to do? What is one idea from Paul's message to the Ephesians that you can take with you this week to help you change the way you think about work?**
2. Read Ephesians 6:9 and Romans 2:11. Paul instructs us to imitate God and that God shows no partiality. How can this shape your interactions with others this week?

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3. Thinking back on the past few weeks, what common elements have you noticed from the different relationships that Paul mentions, and what action steps can you take this week? (Husbands/Wives, Parents/Children, Masters/Bondservants)

## PRAYER (10 MINUTES)

Dear heavenly Father,

Thank you for the Christian community you have placed in our lives. Help us to imitate you in how we honor those you have placed in our lives through your Holy Spirit. May we cultivate a spirit of humility and reflect your love as we seek to imitate you. Help us to honor those in our lives who have impacted our faith journey. Bring to our awareness people in our lives that we can impact this week. In your heavenly name, we pray. Amen.