

# Called to Right Relationships

Ephesians 5-6

by Jon Hill

Review of Ephesians 1-4

Called to Be In Christ

Called to Salvation

Called to Love One Another

Ephesians 5 and 6

- Imitate Christ
- Don't Waste Your Life
- Right Relationships (bigger font on this one)
- Armor of God

Controversial Verses

- Speaking the truth in love is not always received well.
- Particularly difficult when we have had painful relationship experiences that were not characterized by Christ-like love.
- We need an open mind to God's truth, revealed by Paul.

Imitate God and Christ

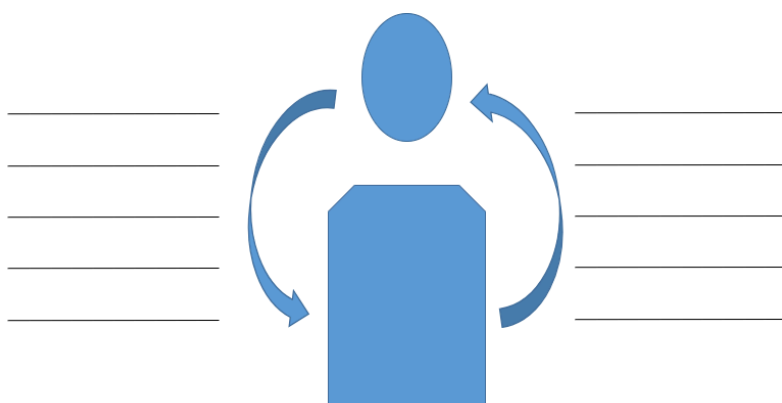
Eph 5:1-2 Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children. And walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.

Don't Waste Your Life - Ephesians 5: 3-21

V. 16 "making the most of every opportunity, because the days are evil."

There is an urgency to use time in a way that shows our thankfulness to God for what He has done.

The Head-Body Metaphor



The ultimate example of a right Head-Body relationship is \_\_\_\_\_ and the \_\_\_\_\_.

## Christ's Actions Toward the Church

### Sometimes We Imitate the Head!

Imitating Christ means we often find ourselves in the role of the Head in relationships to others. Other times we find ourselves in the role of the Body toward someone else who takes some responsibility for us.

Headship does not equal superiority!

Being in the place of the body in the relationship does not mean inferiority!

Example: God the Father and Christ the Son.

### Head to Body Characteristics

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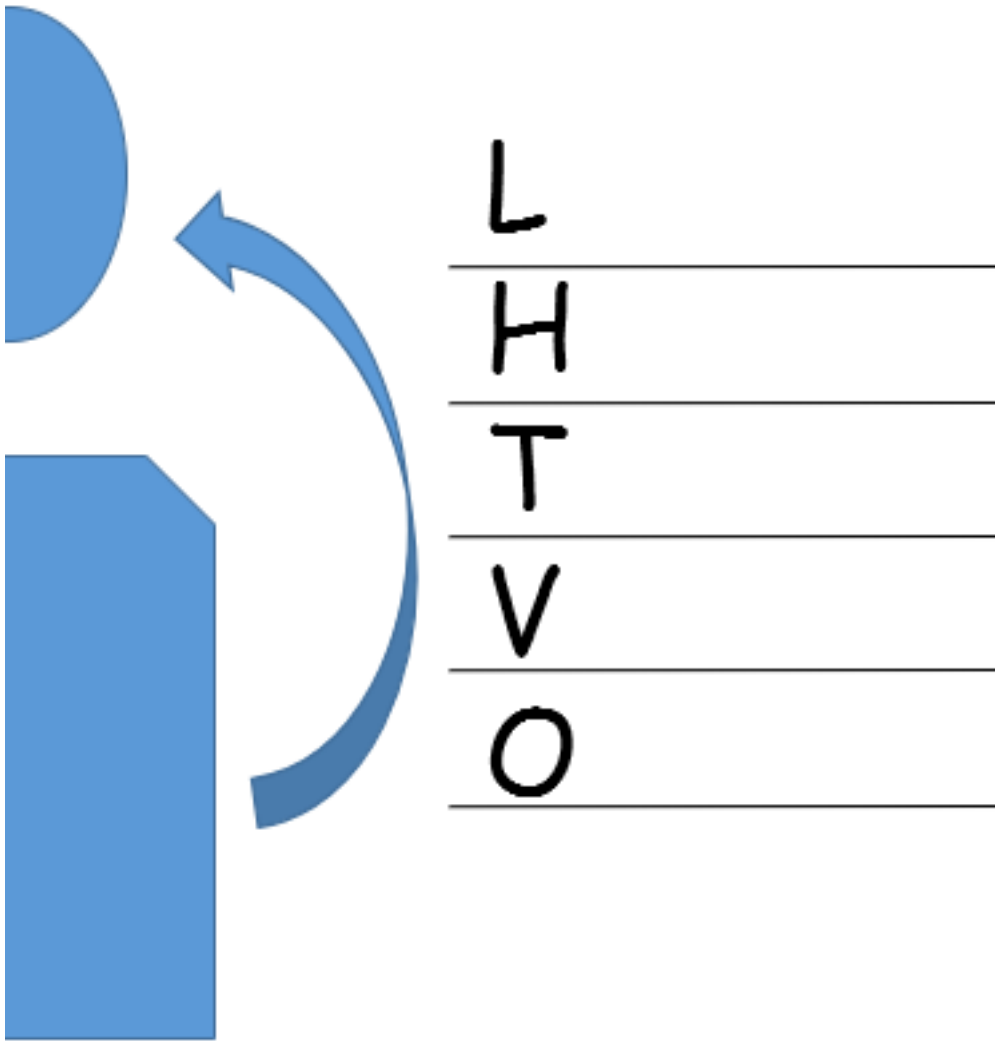
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## Body to Head Responses



Matching up the Head and Body labels

Head-Body

Love <--> Love

Authority <--> Honor

Forgiveness <--> Thankfulness

Protection <--> Vulnerability

Wisdom <--> Obedience

Paul gives us three examples of these kinds of Head-Body relationships. All are to be modeled on how Christ and the Church interact.

Husbands-Wives

Parents-Children

Masters-Slaves

## Husbands and Wives

Ephesians 5:24 Now as the church submits to Christ, so also wives should submit in everything to their husbands.

Ephesians 6: 28-30 ...husbands should love their wives as their own bodies. He who loves his wife loves himself. For no one ever hated his own flesh, but nourishes and cherishes it, just as Christ does the church, because we are members of his body.

## Parents and Children

Ephesians 6:1 Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right.

Ephesians 6:4 Fathers, do not provoke your children to anger, but bring them up in the discipline and instruction of the Lord.

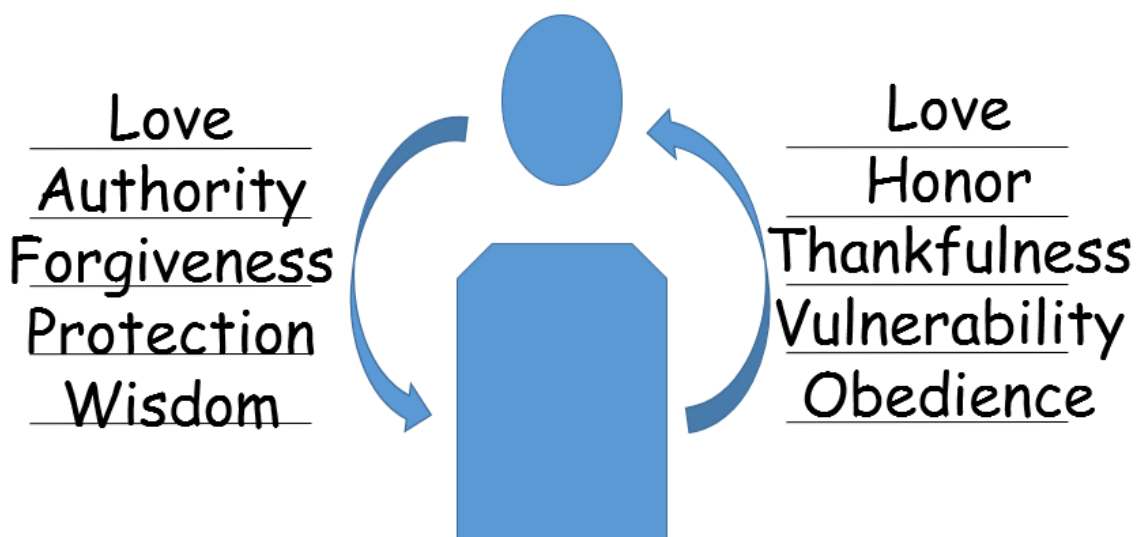
## Slaves and Masters

Ephesians 6:5,9 Bondservants, obey your earthly masters with fear and trembling, with a sincere heart, as you would Christ,

Masters... stop your threatening, knowing that he who is both their Master and yours is in heaven, and that there is no partiality with him.

What other relationships might Christians find themselves in where the Head-Body metaphor could apply?

## The Head-Body Metaphor



The ultimate example of a right Head-Body relationship is Christ and the Church  
Other scriptural examples that involve "bearing with one another in love" include

Parent-Child Husband-Wife Master-Slave

And other relationships we can extend this model to include

Boss-Worker Teacher-Student ??? ???

Question: What relationship in my life is not right?

