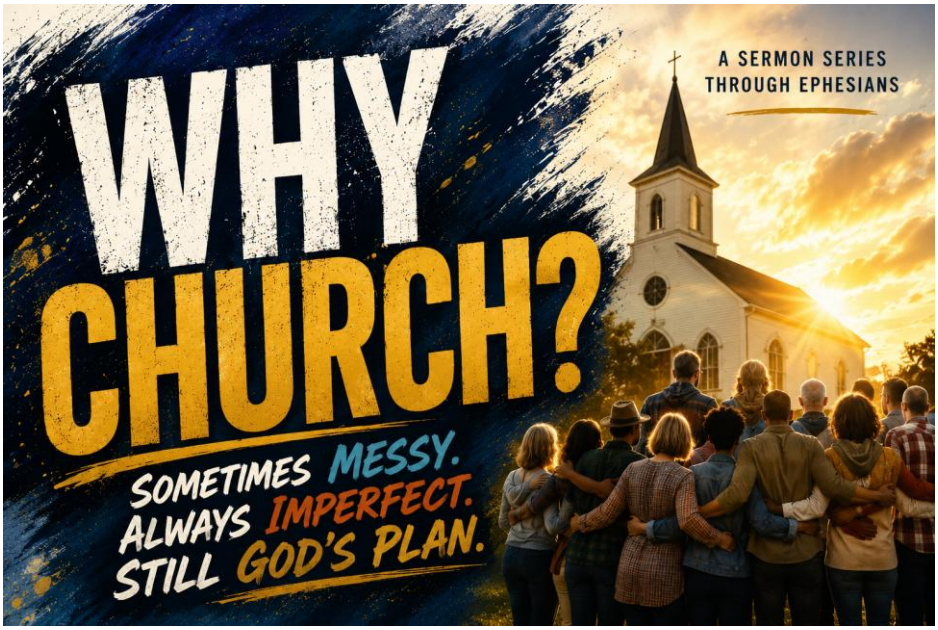


When Jesus Moves In
Ephesians 5:22-6:9

How many of us remember the rules in our house growing up?

A survey reported in 2019 listed some common rules American parents had for their children. Let's count down five. Raise your hand if these were rules growing up—or are rules in your house right now:
Number five:
Number four:

Number three:
Number two:
And number one:

People in Paul's world had household expectations, too—about marriage, parenting, and even slavery. Paul brings Jesus into those relationships. THE MESSAGE says Jesus "moved into the neighborhood" (John 1:14). Bring that picture into focus. What happens when Jesus moves into a marriage? A family? A workplace?

What happens when Jesus moves into our homes? Paul addresses our married life, our family life, and our work life.

Jesus transforms married life (Eph. 5:22-33). Before Paul tells the wife to submit to her husband, he builds the foundation on these five principles:
1) Love (5:1-2)
2) Light (5:8)
3) Wisdom (5:15)

4) Dependence (5:18-20)
5) Submission (5:21).

Jesus transforms family life (Eph. 6:1-4).

Jesus transforms work life (Eph. 6:5-9).

The Principles and Questions for Jesus:
Love: *Jesus, how can I express your love to this person?*
Light: *Jesus, what are you helping me see that I need to face honestly?*
Wisdom: *Jesus, what response will I be glad I chose tomorrow?*
Dependence: *Jesus, where do I need to rely on the Spirit's help?*
Submission: *Jesus, where are you inviting me to yield instead of insisting on my way?*

We *began with the rules we had—or have—growing up. Think about the home you'll return to today, the work you'll return to tomorrow. Bring one relationship before Jesus now—a family member, co-worker, boss, or employee. Which question is most relevant? Will you invite Jesus into this and depend on his Spirit to take the next faithful step?*

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