



## LIVING PLANTED: Session Four

### *The Details of Duty*

#### **Opening Prayer**

Almighty God, You have called to be holy because You are holy. Help us to fulfill the duties You have given to us in the roles You have assigned to us in this life. Forgive us when we fail. We pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

#### **Introduction**

##### **Read Aloud:**

In our last lesson, we talked about how God has given us duties to perform in the home, the church, and the community. We talked about how within those three areas, there are differing roles given to different people. In this lesson, we wish to talk about what the basic duties of people in those roles are. God gives to people with certain roles his authority to exercise for the good of others. Likewise, He gives to other people with differing roles people with authority to watch over them.

Read aloud Colossians 3:18-22, 4:1 which we also read in the last lesson

<sup>18</sup> Wives, submit to your husbands, as is fitting in the Lord. <sup>19</sup> Husbands, love your wives, and do not be harsh with them. <sup>20</sup> Children, obey your parents in everything, for this pleases the Lord. <sup>21</sup> Fathers, do not provoke your children, lest they become discouraged. <sup>22</sup> Bondservants, obey in everything those who are your earthly masters, not by way of eye-service, as people-pleasers, but with sincerity of heart, fearing the Lord. <sup>4:1</sup> Masters, treat your bondservants justly and fairly, knowing that you also have a Master in heaven.

**Q: What basic duty is given to the following group of people: wives, children, and bondservants?**

**Q: What basic duty is given to the following group of people: husbands, fathers, and masters?**

Read aloud Luke 7:2, 6-8

<sup>2</sup> Now a centurion had a servant who was sick and at the point of death, who was highly valued by him. <sup>6</sup> And Jesus went with them. When he was not far from the house, the centurion sent friends, saying to him, "Lord, do not trouble yourself, for I am not worthy to have you come under my roof. <sup>7</sup> Therefore I did not presume to come to you. But say the word, and let my servant be healed. <sup>8</sup> For I too am a man set under authority, with soldiers under me: and I say to one, 'Go,' and he goes; and to another, 'Come,' and he comes; and to my servant, 'Do this,' and he does it."

**Q: Does the centurion in this story have authority? What does he understand about that authority?**

**Read aloud Ephesians 5:22–27 (ESV)**

<sup>22</sup> Wives, submit to your own husbands, as to the Lord. <sup>23</sup> For the husband is the head of the wife even as Christ is the head of the church, his body, and is himself its Savior. <sup>24</sup> Now as the church submits to Christ, so also wives should submit in everything to their husbands. <sup>25</sup> Husbands, love your wives, as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her, <sup>26</sup> that he might sanctify her, having cleansed her by the washing of water with the word, <sup>27</sup> so that he might present the church to himself in splendor, without spot or wrinkle or any such thing, that she might be holy and without blemish.

**Q: Who is the model for all who have been given authority? And what is his example?**

**Q: What is the model for all who have been given one with authority over them? And what is its example?**

**Read aloud 1 Peter 1:14–16**

<sup>14</sup> As obedient children, do not be conformed to the passions of your former ignorance, <sup>15</sup> but as he who called you is holy, you also be holy in all your conduct, <sup>16</sup> since it is written, “You shall be holy, for I am holy.”

**Read aloud Galatians 5:22–23**

<sup>22</sup> But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, <sup>23</sup> gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law.

**Q: We are called to be holy as God’s graciously planted people. Beyond the basic duties to love and to obey, we are also to let the fruits of the Spirit grow in all of these roles we have been given. Pick one fruit of the Spirit and answer the following question: what would this fruit look like in one of the roles we have mentioned (husband, wife, parent, child, boss, worker, pastor, hearer of the word, ruler, or citizen)?**

### **Closing Prayer**

Almighty God, You have forgiven us of all of our sin in Jesus and have planted us in Your Kingdom. You keep us alive with the living water Jesus. Grant that we might always bear fruit for You that benefits our neighbors. In Jesus’ name, Amen.