

Group Conversation Guide

For the Week of November 17

Series: Jesus Above All
Title: Who Are You Serving?
Scripture: Colossians 3:18–4:1

Before Your Small Group Meeting

- **Watch or Attend the Message:** Pastor John Leathers' message on Colossians 3:18–4:1: churchatviera.com/live.
- **Pray:** Ask God to prepare your heart and your group to understand and apply His Word.

Icebreaker: Serving Stories

*(Share your **For 321** story if you were able to serve this past Saturday)*

Go around the group and share one example of a time you served someone or were served by someone. How did it make you feel, and how did it impact your relationship?

Beginning the Conversation

Read **Colossians 3:18–4:1** together as a group.

Key Terms to Explore (Share with your Group):

- **Submission (v. 18):** A voluntary attitude of giving preference to another in love, modeled after Christ's humility.
- **Authority (v. 19-4:1):** Leadership used to build up, protect, and serve others, not dominate or exploit.
- **Pleasing the Lord (v. 20-23):** Living with integrity and serving as if Christ is your ultimate master.
- **Inheritance from the Lord (v. 24):** A reminder that our reward is eternal, not just earthly.

Discussion Starter Questions

Living in Relationships of Service (Colossians 3:18–4:1)

Focus on Biblical Relationships:

- How do the relationships described (wives/husbands, children/parents, servants/masters) reflect mutual service and Christ's lordship?
- What does it mean to serve “as to the Lord” (v. 23)?

Practical Reflection:

- How can seeing Christ as our ultimate authority change the way we serve in our homes, workplaces, and communities?
- What challenges arise in submitting to or exercising leadership in a Christlike way?

Scripture Application:

- How does Matthew 20:26–28 (“Whoever would be great among you must be your servant...”) inform the attitudes described in Colossians 3:18–4:1?

Reflecting on Biblical Relationships

Wives and Husbands (Colossians 3:18-19)

- **Question:** What does a loving, Christ-centered marriage look like? How does mutual submission and love strengthen the relationship?
- **Challenge:** How can we honor and serve our spouse (or others in our life) selflessly this week?

Children and Parents (Colossians 3:20-21)

- **Question:** What does it mean for children to “obey in everything” and for fathers not to provoke or discourage their children?
- **Challenge:** How can you create an environment where Christ is honored in your family relationships?

Servants and Masters (Colossians 3:22-4:1)

- **Question:** In modern contexts, how can we apply these principles to our workplaces or leadership roles?
- **Challenge:** What practical steps can you take to serve with integrity and humility at work or in leadership?

Which Relationship Challenges You the Most?

- How can you align your actions in that relationship with serving Christ?
- What steps will you take this week to reflect God’s design for service in your relationships?

Worship Together

Song Suggestion: *"Build My Life"* by Pat Barrett

<https://youtu.be/Z32HiCoFzIU?feature=shared>

This song focuses on the foundation of living and serving on Christ's love and example. Reflect on how He modeled ultimate service.

Application: Serving as Christ Serves

Encourage group members to pick one or more of these activities for the week:

- **Pray:** Ask God to guide you in serving Him through your relationships.
- **Reflect:** Write about a relationship where you find it hard to serve or submit. How can you trust God in that area?
- **Act:** Look for an opportunity to serve someone in your home, workplace, or community this week.
- **Encourage:** Reach out to someone who serves faithfully and thank them for their example of Christlike service.

Group Prayer

Close your group time with prayer:

- Thank God for His perfect example of service and submission through Jesus Christ.
- Ask for wisdom and grace to live out these principles in your relationships, working for His glory.

Group Encouragement

Challenge one another to live out these principles daily:

- Commit to seeing every relationship as an opportunity to serve Christ.
- Encourage each other throughout the week to live in harmony, mutual submission, and Christlike service.