

**A.L.I.V.E. Bible Study**  
**Date: December 10, 2023**  
**Colossians 3:18-25**

1. During last week's instructions, we didn't spend much time on verse 11. What does verse 11 mean about the new kingdom that God is setting up?
  - a. There is no class system based on race or culture.
  - b. You are a new creation, a member of a new kingdom, and in this kingdom the only distinction that is made between people is those who are in Christ and those who are not.
  - c. We are all equal before God, in Christ.
  - d. All of the Above.
  
2. How do we reconcile verse 11 with the rest of this text?
  - a. Paul is contradicting himself by making people submit to other people when they are supposed to be equal.
  - b. Paul is not creating another class system. He is talking about how we get along with each other in the kingdom.
  - c. Paul is clear here and elsewhere (see 1 Corinthians 8:9-13 & 9:19-23) in his letters that although we are free, we don't insist on our freedom. Instead, we make ourselves servants for the sake of the salvation of others.
  - d. Paul has instructions for both those of authority and those who were under authority in his earthly culture.
  - e. We are in this world, though not of it, so we need to know how we should treat each other in this world.
  
3. How does Paul say, in verse 22-24, that those who are under authority (slave or otherwise) should do their work?
  - a. Do what you are supposed to, even when you are not being watched.
  - b. Do what you are supposed to not because you are being watched.
  - c. Do what you are supposed to do, with all your heart, as if God was the one who was asking you to do it and not a human.
  - d. Remember that how we treat people is how we are treating Christ. How we serve people is how we are serving him.
  
4. How do you treat those who are in authority over you? \_\_\_\_\_  
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5. How does Paul say, according to 4:1, we should treat those over whom we have authority?
  - a. Provide for them what is fair.
  - b. Treat them as you want your master to treat you.
  - c. Treat them as if you are also under authority and will be held accountable for your treatment of them.
  
6. How do you treat those whom you have been given earthly authority over? \_\_\_\_\_  
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