

# New Life, New Ways

Colossians 3:18 - 4:1

New Life → New Clothes

Theory → Practice

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# New Ways

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1. The Family Way (3:18-21)
2. The Working Way (3:22)
3. The Boss Way (4:1)

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# Way

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- ❖ A method, style, or manner of doing something.
- ❖ One's characteristic or habitual manner of behaviour.
- ❖ Typical manner in which someone behaves.

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# 1. The Family Way

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<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 bitter toward them. <sup>20</sup> Children, obey your parents in all things, for this is well pleasing to the Lord. <sup>21</sup> Fathers, do not provoke your children, lest they become discouraged.

(Colossians 3 : 18 - 21 NKJV)

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# 1. The Family Way

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- ❖ Bring God-centred in the family.
- ❖ Doing all things out of love, for God and one another.
- ❖ When we draw close to God individually, we also draw close to one another.

# God



Child



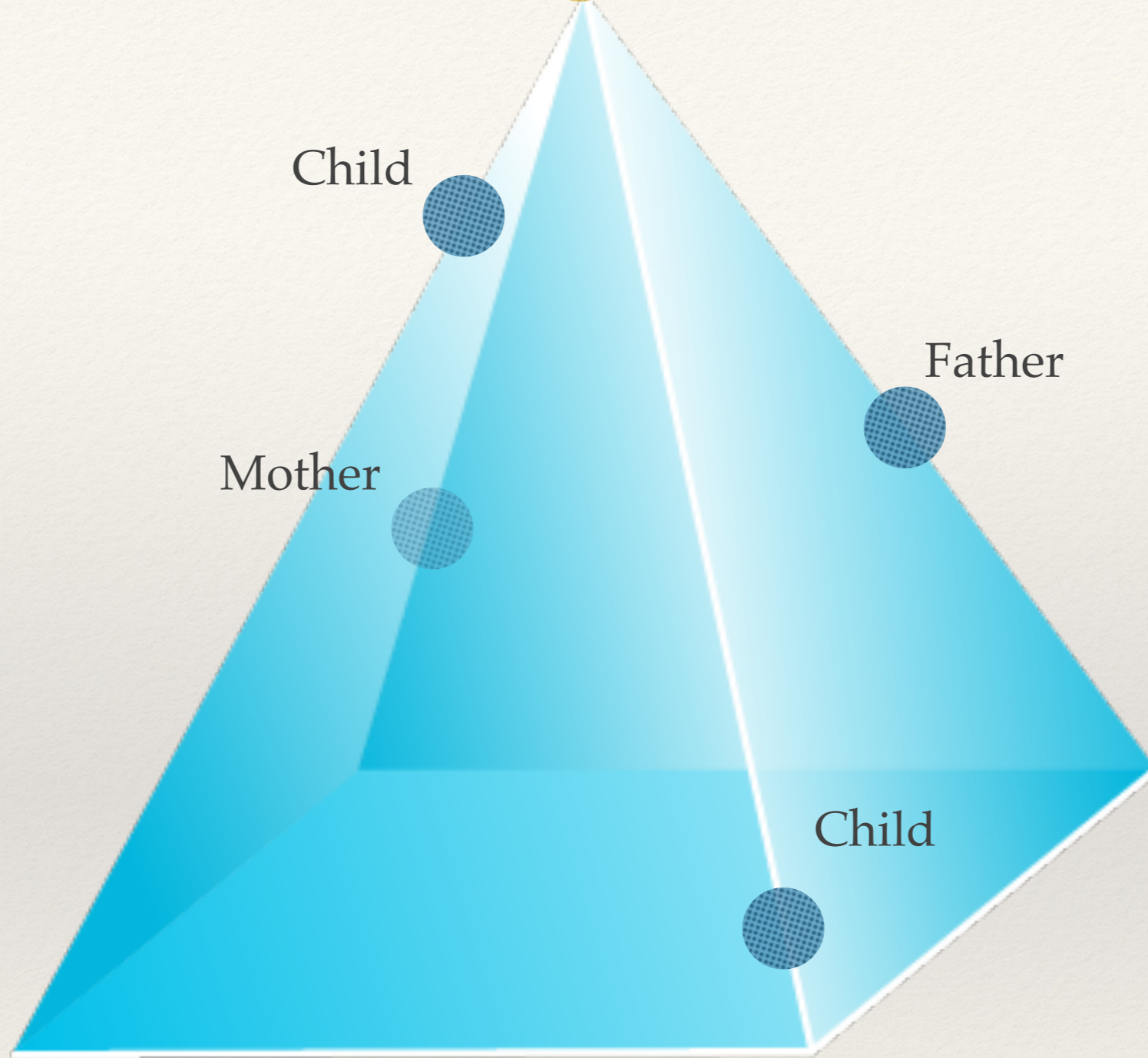
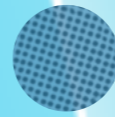
Father



Mother



Child

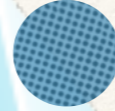




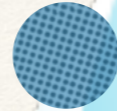
# God



Father



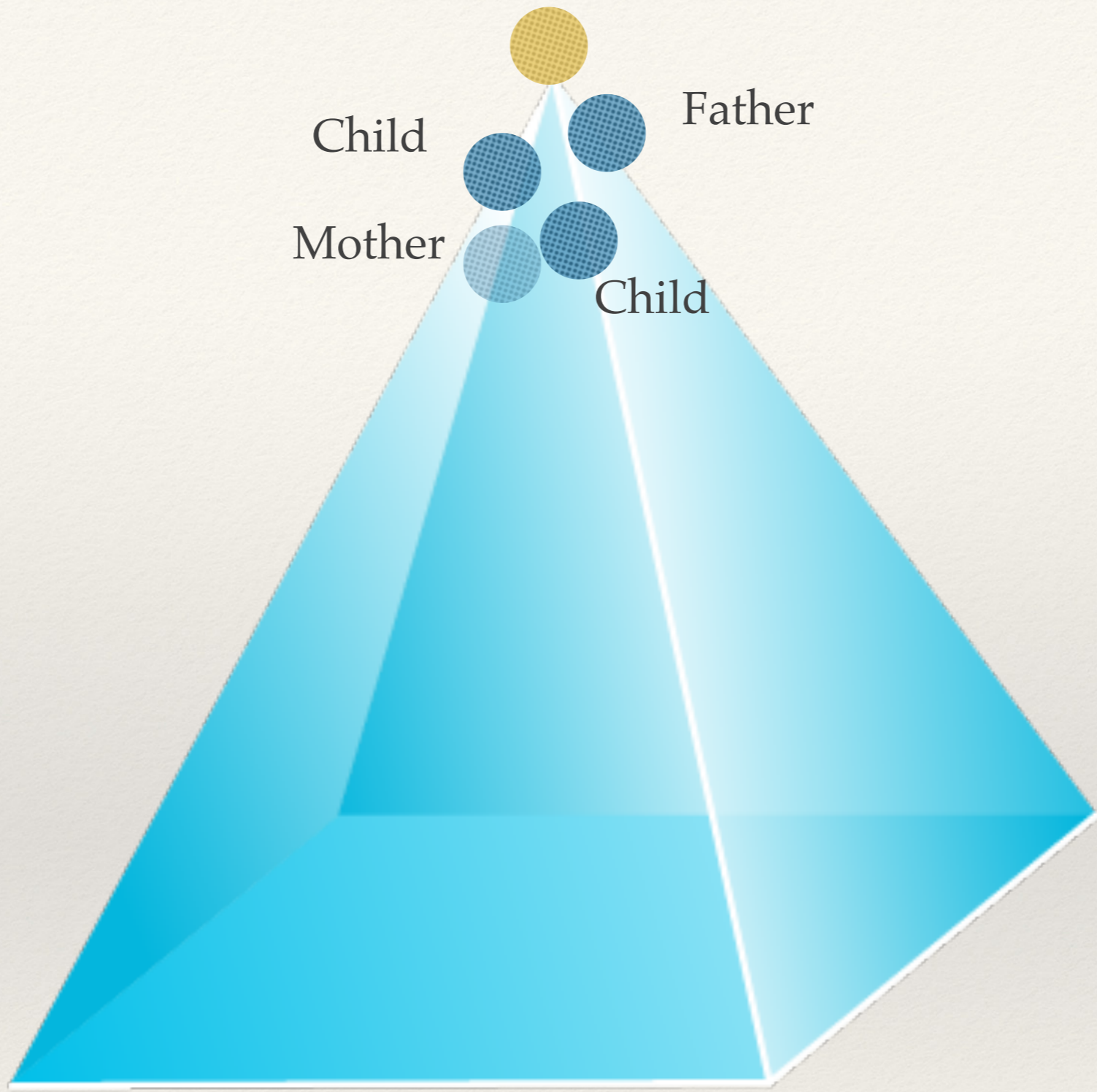
Child



Mother



Child



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# 1. The Family Way

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Active	Passive
Speak kindly to / of one another (v. 12)	Be patient with one another, long suffering if necessary (v. 12)
Perform acts of love regularly (v. 14)	Extend mercy & forgive one another's transgressions (v. 13)
Appreciate the good things done, i.e. praise effort, not just results	Seek to honour God in decision-making
Live out the Gospel	Pray for one another

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# 1. The Family Way

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- ❖ **Dealing with disagreements- don't be bogged down by *Adiophora*:**
  - Disputes over doubtful things (Romans 14:1).
  - Matters of indifference that have little or no bearing on holiness, e.g. customs / tradition, personal preference for food.
  - Is the intent of the “dispute” destructive judgement or constructive counsel towards Christlikeness?

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## 2. The Working Way

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<sup>22</sup> Bondservants, obey in all things your masters according to the flesh, not with eyeservice, as men-pleasers, but in sincerity of heart, fearing God. <sup>23</sup> And whatever you do, do it heartily, as to the Lord and not to men, <sup>24</sup> knowing that from the Lord you will receive the reward of the inheritance; for you serve the Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>25</sup> But he who does wrong will be repaid for what he has done, and there is no partiality.

(Colossians 3 : 22 - 25 NKJV)

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## 2. The Working Way

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- ❖ Recognising work as worship.
- ❖ Practising the presence of God at work.
- ❖ Doing our best work to please God, not simply for worldly reward, promotion or to outdo others.
- ❖ God will hold us accountable for shoddy work.
- ❖ Having a cheerful, joyful and positive disposition constantly -> allowing God's peace to rule in our hearts (v. 16).

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# 3. The Boss Way

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Masters, give your bondservants what is just and fair, knowing that you also have a Master in heaven.

(Colossians 4 : 1 NKJV)

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# 3. The Boss Way

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- ❖ Being the kind of “boss” that Jesus was.
- ❖ **Just:** fulfil all contractual/legal obligations as a boss.
- ❖ **Fair:** being equitable requires generosity -> tender mercies and kindness (v. 12).
- ❖ Recognising the sovereignty of God at work.

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# New Ways as the Only Way

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Therefore, if anyone is in Christ,  
he is a new creation; old things  
have passed away; behold, all  
things have become new.  
(2 Corinthians 5 : 17 NKJV)

For you were once darkness but  
now you are light in the Lord.  
Walk as children of light.  
(Galatians 5 : 8 NKJV)

I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I  
who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I  
now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God,  
who loved me and gave Himself for me.  
(Galatians 2 : 20 NKJV)



“I only say that God has formed these relationships, and that **whosoever fears God will respect them.** Grace is requisite. They give occasion, through their intimacy itself, to all that is most painful, if grace do not act in them. The apostle warns us here of this danger. If the Lord is the bond in them, if our still **closer union with Him forms the strength of our natural relationships,** then grace reigns here as elsewhere; and, to those who stand in these relationships, they become **a scene for the lovely display of the life of Christ.**”

– *John Darby*

Response