

## BEING TREATED FAIRLY

A major source of griping is the feeling that I am not being treated fairly—Ephesians 4:29-32; Philippians 2:13-15.

*Answer these questions. Think before answering!!*

1. Is there anyone here who has never had the feeling that you were being treated unfairly?
2. Who was that feeling directed toward?
3. How many had that feeling directed toward someone other than father, mother, employer, teacher, or God?
4. Did it help or hinder your relationship with that person?  
*If it is not made right, it settles into bitterness.*
5. What is fair?

- a. Fair is not always equal.

Parable: Master paying same for different amounts of work—Matthew 20:1-16

- b. Root to unfair feeling

- 1) Lack of understanding “whole” situation

Examples:

- a. Brother of prodigal son—Luke 15:25-32
- b. Hell—result of rejecting the sacrifice and invitation of the Son of God—John 3:36

- 2) Sin nature

- a. Selfishness
- b. Covetousness
- c. Pride—Satan
- d. Rebellion—Cain (do it my way)
- e. Laziness (slothful)
- f. Strife and arguing—Philippians 2:3

*Sin distorts perception. Example: David and Bathsheba, Nathan and prophet*

- c. Fair is faith and trust in the promises of God in the Word.

- 1) Example: Joseph

- 2) Philippians 2

6. You can solve the effects in your own life by taking unilateral action.

- a. Give up your “rights.” You never have a right to sin—I Corinthians 6:19-20.
  - 1) Right to determine future—Romans 8:28
  - 2) Right to material things—Matthew 6:33
  - 3) Right to “do your own thing”—Hebrews 13:17; Romans 13:1-7
    - a. Three parts to obey—to know, submit, do
    - b. Definition of submission—willing attitude to put yourself under authority
    - c. Examples:
      - i. Children obey and honor parents—Ephesians 6:1-2
      - ii. Wives to husbands—Ephesians 6:5-8
      - iii. Employees to boss—Ephesians 6:5-8
- b. Trust those placed over you as “*minister[s] of God to thee for good*”—Romans 13:1-7.