

Children and Parents - Ephesians 6:1-4

Topics:

Children, Discipline, Discouragement, Honor, Instructions, Jesus Christ, Marriage, Parents, Promises, Training

Open It Questions

1. What are some of the enjoyable aspects of being a parent?

2. How do you treat children differently from the way your parents treated you?

3. If you could change one thing about your parents, what would you change?

Explore It Questions

4. Why is a child's obedience to his or her parents pleasing to the Lord? (6:1)

5. Why should children obey parents? (6:1)

6. How is obedience to parents part of a child's obligation to Christ? (6:1)

7. What does it mean to "honor your father and mother"? (6:2-3)

8. What was promised to Israelite children who obeyed their parents? (6:2-3)

9. How does God's commandment and promise to children hold true today? (6:2-3)

10. What does God want fathers not to do? (6:4)

11. What does God want fathers to do? (6:4)

12. How should children be reared and nourished? (6:4)

13. How is the Lord to be the center of parent-child relationships? (6:4)

Get It Questions

14. Why should parents pay attention to their child’s natural bent?

15. Why is it easier for children to obey fair and loving parents than unreasonable and demanding parents?

16. How does rearing children in the "training and instruction of the Lord" provide guidelines for fathers?

17. How does honoring your parents bring you blessing?

18. How do you feel about your ability to be a good parent?

19. How can the Lord support you in your role as a parent?

20. How can a parent avoid exasperating his or her children?

Apply It Questions

21. What can you do to improve or strengthen your relationship with your parents?

22. How can you avoid exasperating your children?

23. How do you need to nurture healthy family relationships this week?

Adult Questions for LESSON Maker.



BIBLE STUDY

Letter to the Ephesians Spirit-Guided Relationships

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**Children and Parents
Ephesians 6:1-4**

**Children and
Parents
Ephesians 6:1-4**

- Children
- Discipline
- Discouragement
- Honor
- Instructions

- Jesus Christ
- Marriage
- Parents
- Promises
- Training

**Children and
Parents
Ephesians 6:1-4**

**Open It
Questions**



Children and Parents

Ephesians 6:1-4

Open It Questions

1. What are some of the enjoyable aspects of being a parent?



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Open It Questions

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Open It Questions

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**Children and
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Ephesians 6:1-4**

Introduction

Children and Parents

Ephesians 6:1-4

Introduction

If our faith in Christ is real, it will usually prove itself at home, in our relationships with those who know us best.

Children and parents have a responsibility to each other.

Children and Parents Ephesians 6:1-4

Introduction

The fact that Paul took the time to directly address those who were regarded by some as the “lower” and “less important” members of society (wives, children, and slaves) shows that he raised them to a level of importance and responsibility in the body of Christ.

**Children and
Parents
Ephesians 6:1-4
Introduction**

All Christians are to be responsible in their positions, living as Christ would have them live.

**Children and
Parents
Ephesians 6:1-4**

**Scripture
Reading**

Children and Parents

Scripture Reading Ephesians 6:1-4

¹Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right.

²“Honor your father and mother,” which is the first commandment with promise:

³“that it may be well with you and you may live long on the earth.”

⁴And you, fathers, do not provoke your children to wrath, but bring them up in the training and admonition of the Lord.

**Children and
Parents
Ephesians 6:1-4**

**Explore It
Questions**



Children and Parents

Ephesians 6:1

Children Obey Your Parents

4. Why is a child's obedience to his or her parents pleasing to the Lord? ([6:1](#))



Children and Parents

Ephesians 6:1

Children Obey Your Parents



“Children, obey your parents in the Lord [that is, accept their guidance and discipline as His representatives], for this is right [for obedience teaches wisdom and self-discipline]” **(6:1 AMP)**

[Also see Colossians 3:2]

Children and Parents

Ephesians 6:1

Children Obey Your Parents

5. Why should children obey parents? ([6:1](#))



Children and Parents

Ephesians 6:1

Children Obey Your Parents



“Children, obey your parents in the Lord [that is, accept their guidance and discipline as His representatives], for this is right [for obedience teaches wisdom and self-discipline]” **(6:1 AMP)**

Children and Parents

Ephesians 6:1

A Child's Obligation to Christ

6. How is obedience to parents part of a child's obligation to Christ? ([6:1](#))



Children and Parents

Ephesians 6:1

A Child's Obligation to Christ



“Children, obey your parents in the Lord [that is, accept their guidance and discipline as His representatives], for this is right [for obedience teaches wisdom and self-discipline]” **(6:1 AMP)**

Children and Parents

Ephesians 6:2

Honor Mother and Father

7. What does it mean to "honor your father and mother"? ([6:2](#))



Children and Parents

Ephesians 6:2

Honor Mother and Father



“HONOR [esteem, value as precious] YOUR FATHER AND YOUR MOTHER [and be respectful to them]—this is the first commandment with a promise—” **(6:2 AMP)**.

Children and Parents

Ephesians 6:2-3

Promise to Obedient Children

8. What was promised to Israelite children who obeyed their parents?
([6:2-3](#))



Children and Parents

Ephesians 6:2-3

Promise to Obedient Children



² HONOR [esteem, value as precious] YOUR FATHER AND YOUR MOTHER [and be respectful to them]—this is the first commandment with a promise—

³ SO THAT IT MAY BE WELL WITH YOU, AND THAT YOU MAY HAVE A LONG LIFE ON THE EARTH. **(6:2-3 AMP)**

Children and Parents

Ephesians 6:2-3

Commandment/Promise True Today

9. How does God's commandment and promise to children hold true today? ([6:2-3](#))



Children and Parents

Ephesians 6:2-3

Commandment/Promise True Today



² HONOR [esteem, value as precious] YOUR FATHER AND YOUR MOTHER [and be respectful to them]—this is the first commandment with a promise—

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Children and Parents

Ephesians 6:4

What Father's are NOT to do

10. What does God want fathers NOT to do? ([6:4](#))



Children and Parents

Ephesians 6:4



What Father's are NOT to do

“Fathers, *do not* provoke your children to anger [do not exasperate them to the point of resentment with demands that are trivial or unreasonable or humiliating or abusive; nor by showing favoritism or indifference to any of them], but bring them up [tenderly, with lovingkindness] in the discipline and instruction of the Lord.” (6:4 AMP)

Children and Parents
Ephesians 6:4
What Father's ARE TO do

11. What does God want fathers TO do? ([6:4](#))



Children and Parents

Ephesians 6:4

What Father's ARE TO do



“Fathers, do not provoke your children to anger [do not exasperate them to the point of resentment with demands that are trivial or unreasonable or humiliating or abusive; nor by showing favoritism or indifference to any of them], ***but*** bring them up [tenderly, with lovingkindness] in the discipline and instruction of the Lord.” (6:4 AMP)

Children and Parents

Ephesians 6:4

Rearing and Nourishing Children



12. How should children be reared and nourished? ([6:4](#))

Children and Parents

Ephesians 6:4

Rearing and Nourishing Children

“Fathers, do not provoke your children to anger [do not exasperate them to the point of resentment with demands that are trivial or unreasonable or humiliating or abusive; nor by showing favoritism or indifference to any of them], but bring them up [tenderly, with lovingkindness] in the discipline and instruction of the Lord.” **(6:4 AMP)**



Children and Parents

Ephesians 6:4

The Lord at the Center of Parenting

13. How is the Lord to be the center of parent-child relationships? ([6:4](#))



Children and Parents

Ephesians 6:4

The Lord at the Center of Parenting

“Fathers, do not provoke your children to anger [do not exasperate them to the point of resentment with demands that are trivial or unreasonable or humiliating or abusive; nor by showing favoritism or indifference to any of them], but bring them up [tenderly, with lovingkindness] in the discipline and instruction of the Lord.” **(6:4 AMP)**



**Children and
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Ephesians 6:1-4**

**Get It
Questions**

#14-20



Children and Parents

Ephesians 6:1-4



14. Why should parents pay attention to their child's natural bent (curve or incline, leaning, predisposition)?
(See Proverbs 22:6)

15. Why is it easier for children to obey fair and loving parents than unreasonable and demanding parents?

Children and Parents

Ephesians 6:1-4



16. How does rearing children in the "training and instruction of the Lord" provide guidelines for fathers?

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18. How do you feel about your ability to be a good parent?

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Ephesians 6:1-4



20. How can a parent avoid exasperating his or her children?

**Children and
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Ephesians 6:1-4**

**Apply It
Questions**

#21-23



Children and Parents

Ephesians 6:1-4



21. What can you do to improve or strengthen your relationship with your parents?

22. How can you avoid exasperating your children?

Children and Parents

Ephesians 6:1-4



23. How do you need to nurture healthy family relationships this week?



NEXT WEEK'S LESSON

**The Letter to the Ephesians
“Slaves and Masters”
Ephesians 6:5-9**