



Talk it Over

PASTOR LYLE EPHESIANS - THE FAMILY - 11/09/25

KEY SCRIPTURE

Ephesians 6:1-4

1 Children, obey your parents because you belong to the Lord, for this is the right thing to do.

2 "Honor your father and mother." This is the first commandment with a promise:
3 If you honor your father and mother, "things will go well for you, and you will have a long life on the earth."

4 Fathers, do not provoke your children to anger by the way you treat them. Rather, bring them up with the discipline and instruction that comes from the Lord.

Hebrews 12:5-6, 11

5 And have you forgotten the encouraging words God spoke to you as his children? He said, "My child, don't make light of the Lord's discipline, and don't give up when he corrects you.
6 For the Lord disciplines those he loves, and he punishes each one he accepts as his child."
...

11 No discipline is enjoyable while it is happening—it's painful! But afterward there will be a peaceful harvest of right living for those who are trained in this way.

START TALKING

What was your favorite room in the house you grew up in? And why?

START DISCUSSING

CHILDREN OBEY YOUR PARENTS

Read Ephesians 6:1

In the NT, Paul writes the same instruction in Colossians 3:20, but it is repeated multiple times in the OT, three times in Proverbs alone. Pastor Lyle said that much of what we learn in the home then informs us throughout our lives.

How does learning to obey benefit us throughout life? Think through how the NT talks of authorities in the Church, Marriage, and the Workplace.

How does God lead us through the different authorities in our lives?

HONOR YOUR PARENTS

Read Ephesians 6:2-3

Pastor Lyle said that as a child grows up, they are instructed to honor their parents. This command to "honor" is used of honoring all people, but then the instruction is given to honor the king, parents, wife, and God.

How does the instruction to specifically honor a position differ from the general command to honor everyone?

How do these specific positions relate to one another?

Consider how a father demonstrates obedience and honor to his children in the way he responds to the government, the church leaders, the workplace, and their mom.

FATHERS DON'T PROVOKE YOUR CHILDREN TO WRATH

Read Ephesians 6:4

Pastor Lyle pointed out that the father is addressed as the leader of the family. Obviously, children are going to become angry when the parent sets down rules. So this is addressing not just any kind of provocation.

The prohibition here is not simply "don't do anything that makes your child mad." How should we understand the type of provoking that Paul is addressing?

DISCIPLINE AND INSTRUCTION

A question often asked is the difference between punishment and discipline. A simple answer is that punishment focuses on the misdeed. Where discipline focuses on the future. For example, if a child carelessly breaks a dish, does the parent's action differ if it is Corelle ware or Lenox? Is the focus on the cost of the plate or careless behavior?

Take some time to talk about the difference between discipline and punishment.

How do discipline and instruction work together?