



“Enjoying the Abundant Life of Jesus: Family Life”

Ephesians 6:1-4

Ephesians 6:1-4 – “Children, obey your parents in the Lord for this is right. 2 Honor your father and mother (which is the first commandment with a promise) 3 so that it may be well with you, and that you may live long on the earth. 4 Fathers, do not provoke your children to anger, but bring them up in the discipline and instruction of the Lord.”

Intro: Paul’s instructions included husbands and wives (Eph.5). Now we look at children.

- And the Spirit-filled life is to be an abundant life of joy...peace...thanksgiving...& humility.

Humility within relationships shows by how we get along with each other.

- Ephesians 5:21 – “...and be subject to one another in the fear of Christ.”
- Ephesians 5:22 – “Wives, be subject to your own husbands as to the Lord.”
- Ephesians 5:25 – “Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church.”

Three facts about obedience that lead to “Enjoying the abundant life of Jesus in our families”.

1. Obedience is right (v.1)
2. Obedience brings blessing (v.2-3)
3. Obedience requires training (v.4)

1. Obedience is right (v.1)

Ephesians 6:1 – “Children, obey your parents in the Lord for this is right.”

Matthew 19:14 – “But Jesus said, “Let the children alone, and do not hinder them from coming to Me; for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these.”

2 Timothy 3:2 – “For men will be lovers of self, lovers of money, boastful, arrogant, revilers, disobedient to parents, ungrateful, unholy.”

2. Obedience brings blessing (v.2-3)

Ephesians 6:2-3 – “Honor your father and mother (which is the first commandment with a promise) 3 so that it may be well with you, and that you may live long on the earth.”

Exodus 20:12 – “Honor your father and your mother, that your days may be prolonged in the land.

Deuteronomy 5:16 – “Honor your father and your mother, as the LORD your God has commanded you, that your days may be prolonged and that it may go well with you.”

Leviticus 19:2b-3 – “You shall be holy, for I the LORD your God am holy. 3 ‘Every one of you shall reverence his mother and his father, and you shall keep My sabbaths’ I am the LORD your God.”

Leviticus 20:9a – “If there is anyone who curses his father or his mother, he shall surely be put to death;”

The third fact about obedience that leads to enjoying the abundant life of Jesus in our family...

3. Obedience requires training (v.4)

Ephesians 6:4 – “Fathers, do not provoke your children to anger, but bring them up in the discipline and instruction of the Lord.”

1 Corinthians 10:11 – “Now these things happened to them as an example, and they were written for our instruction upon whom the ends of the ages have come.”

Titus 3:10 – “Reject a factious man after a first and second warning”

Remember the theme of the passage. Submission. Why?

- Because humility...and holiness...and harmony in the church must begin in the home.

So, this is how you enjoy the abundant life of Jesus in your family.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1. What does it mean for children to “obey their parents in the Lord”?
2. How can a child, whether young or grown, seek to honor their parents now?
3. How can parents bring up their children in the discipline and instruction of the Lord? What are practical ways to do this in today’s culture?
4. What does it mean to “not provoke your children to anger”? What specific actions or attitudes might do this, and how can they be avoided?
5. How can fathers and mothers work together to embody Christ in their parenting, especially during disagreements?
6. What is the difference between discipline and instruction, and why are both necessary?
7. How can the Enjoying the abundant life of Jesus be shown in our families?