



"Obeying and Honoring Your Parents"

Pastor Tom Garasha | September 7, 2025

Ephesians 6:1-4 "Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. 'Honor your father and mother' (this is the first commandment with a promise), 'that it may go well with you and that you may live long in the land.' Fathers, do not provoke your children to anger, but bring them up in the discipline and instruction of the Lord."

How Then As a Child Do I Go About Honoring and Obeying?

3 Ways: Learning, Loving and Leaving a Legacy

I. Learning

Proverbs 1:8-9 "Hear, my son, your father's instruction, and forsake not your mother's teaching, for they are a graceful garland for your head and pendants for your neck."

Question: What Kinds of Things Do We Need to Learn?

A. To Have _____ Friendships

Proverbs 1:10, 15 "My son, if sinners entice you, do not consent ... My son, do not walk in the way with them; hold back your foot from their paths"

B. Tap Into Your _____ Wisdom

Proverbs 2:1-2 "My son, if you receive my words and treasure up my commandments with you, making your ear attentive to wisdom and inclining your heart to understanding"

1. Recognize That Your Parent Has Learned a Lot Through _____

2. Concentrate on _____

C. Learn From Their _____

Proverbs 6:20-23 "My son, keep your father's commandment, and forsake not your mother's teaching. Bind them on your heart always; tie them around your neck. When you walk, they will lead you; when you lie down, they will watch over you; and when you awake, they will talk with you. For the commandment is a lamp and the teaching a light, and the reproofs of discipline are the way of life"

1. Discipline is Designed to _____ Us in Love

Proverbs 3:11-12 "My son, do not despise the Lord's discipline or be weary of his reproof, for the Lord reproves him whom he loves, as a father the son in whom he delights."

2. Understand That Discipline is a _____

II. Loving

1 John 4:7-8 "Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God, and whoever loves has been born of God and knows God. Anyone who does not love does not know God, because God is love."

Question: How Can I Best Love My Parents?

A. _____ Them

1. Obedience Says I Submit To You As My _____

2. Obedience Says That I Am Honoring My Parents _____

3. Obedience Says To Parents That They _____ Them

B. _____ Them

Ephesians 4:31-32 "Let all bitterness and wrath and anger and clamor and slander be put away from you, along with all malice. Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you."

C. We May Need To Take Care of Them In Their _____ (Matthew 15:3-6)

III. Leaving A Legacy

Proverbs 10:1 "The proverbs of Solomon. A wise son makes a glad father, but a foolish son is a sorrow to his mother."

Question: How Then Can We Leave A Legacy To Our Parents?

A. _____

Proverbs 10:5 "He who gathers in summer is a prudent son, but he who sleeps in harvest is a son who brings shame."

B. Lead A _____ Life (Proverbs 3:5-6)

1. Trust In The Lord With All Your Heart

2. Don't Rely On Your Own Understanding

3. Seek His Will In All You Do

4. He Will Direct Your Path

C. Be A Good _____ With Insight (Proverbs 3:21-23)

D. Walk With _____ (Proverbs 2:6-7; Ephesians 6:2-3)



September 7, 2025

BACKGROUND:

In chapter six of Ephesians Paul shifts his focus to the relationship between the children and their parents. He recognizes the importance of the Christian family and its impact on society. We may not all be parents, but we are all children. Many of us are honored to be called children of God. The relationship between the child and their parents is one of the most influential and forming relationships that exist. Ultimately, our relationship with our parents reflects our relationship with God. Today's questions deal with perspective of the child toward the parent. Next week will focus on the parent's perspective.

DIGGING DEEPER:

1. Obedience is an essential part of the Christian faith. Jesus Himself was "obedient unto death, even death on a cross" (Philippians 2:8). For Christians, the act of taking up our cross and following Christ is an act of obedience (Matthew 16:24). Obedience is key to the health of the family relationship as well.

- What does it mean to be obedient?
- As you reflect on your own childhood, were you an obedient child? If you have children, are they obedient to you?
- How is the child's obedience toward the parent a reflection of the household's obedience to God?
- What does Paul mean by "obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right"?
- What ill affects can a disobedient child have on a household?

2. "Honor your father and mother" is the fifth commandment mentioned in the Ten Commandments. It is the first of the commandments that instructs how we are to relate to others. The first four commandments dealt with how we are to relate to God. It is also the only commandment that comes with a promise.

- As an adult child, what does it look like to honor your father and mother? Is the way you honor your parents different now than it was when you were younger?

- Why is it important to God that we honor our parents?
- How have you honored your parents? (Be specific.)
- What is the nature of the promise connected to this commandment?
- Why might God make His promise conditional on respectful treatment of one's parents?

3. Anger is an emotion that can threaten a relationship, especially if it fuels unforgiveness. The Bible warns us against harboring unrighteous anger and dwelling upon it.

- Children, even adult children, can find themselves struggling with anger toward their parents. What do you feel can be the root of some of this anger?
- How can a child honor their parent even in their anger?
- How can a child's anger toward their parents deter the gospel from being lived out in the family?

TAKING IT HOME:

4. A child's relationship with their parent is one of the most influential and forming relationships they will ever experience. How a child is raised will not only affect their future relationships, but more importantly, their relationship with God.

- What is the importance of a child being raised to know and be obedient to the Lord?
- Why does it seem that Paul elevates the importance of the Christian family and its impact in society?
- Has anyone in your group had parents who insisted that their children go to church regularly? What was their motivation? How did it effect the child's relationship with God?