

Sermon Guide and Discussion Questions

Children with Lasting Hope – Ephesians 6:1-4

Sermon Outline

1. Introduction – what does God want for children?
2. Two Commands
 - a. Obey Your Parents
 - b. Honor Your Parents
3. Four Reasons
 - a. It is Right
 - b. God Commands It
 - c. It is Part of Our Relationship with Jesus
 - d. God Promises Blessing
4. Conclusion – only through our lasting hope in Jesus Christ can we be the children God calls us to be

Scripture Passages Referenced

- 1 Thessalonians 4:3 - For this is the will of God, your sanctification...
- Colossians 3:20 - Children, obey your parents in everything, for this pleases the Lord.
- Exodus 20 and Deuteronomy 5 – the 10 Commandments
- Proverbs 15:5 - A fool despises his father's instruction, but whoever heeds reproof is prudent.

Discussion Questions

- Why is it important that we start by thinking about God's will for us as children no matter how old we are?
- How does Colossians 3:20 (Children obey your parents in everything...) help us understand obedience to parents?
- Why should children not obey their parents if the request is contrary to Scripture?
- How do our words and attitudes connect to our obedience?
- How does the command to obey your parents remind you that you need Jesus?
- What is the difference between obey your parents and honoring your parents?
- If you are an adult, what does it look like for you to honor your parents?
- What does "for it is right" mean in context of obeying parents?
- Since God commands children to obey their parents, why is it critical that we have a biblical understanding of God?
- What does "in the Lord" mean? How does that shape obedience to parents?
- What are the blessings that God promises to those who obey/honor their parents?
- How does the lasting hope of Jesus Christ motivate and enable us to obey and/or honor our parents?
- How does this passage and sermon help you love Jesus more?
- How does this passage and sermon challenge you to grow to be more like Christ enabled by the Holy Spirit?