



## **Obey and Honor** Ephesians 6:1-9

**Big Idea:** Children Obey Your Parents; Parents Disciple Your Children

**Introduction:** Paul goes to great lengths in his writing to clearly explain all that God has done for us in Jesus Christ and the role we have as children of God. He doesn't stop there, however, giving very direct instructions and expectations for believers in all their relationships; husbands and wives, parents and children and masters and slaves. Paul addresses these relationships directly and with conviction in Ephesians 5 & 6 and Colossians 3. Today we focus on parents, children, masters and slaves in Ephesians.

### **Ephesians 6:1-3**

1 Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. 2 "Honor your father and mother" (this is the first commandment with a promise), 3 "that it may go well with you and that you may live long in the land."

### **I. Children Obey Your Parents.**

4 Fathers, do not provoke your children to anger, but bring them up in the discipline and instruction of the Lord.

### **II. Fathers Bring your Children up in the Discipline and Instruction of the Lord.**

5 Bondservants, obey your earthly masters with fear and trembling, with a sincere heart, as you would Christ, 6 not by the way of eye-service, as people-pleasers, but as bondservants of Christ, doing the will of God from the heart, 7 rendering service with a good will as to the Lord and not to man, 8 knowing

that whatever good anyone does, this he will receive back from the Lord, whether he is a bondservant or is free.

### **III. Servants, Obey Your Leaders, as You Would Christ.**

9 Masters, do the same to them, and stop your threatening, knowing that he who is both their Master and yours is in heaven, and that there is no partiality with him.

### **IV. Leaders, Lead Your Servants Responsibly, Knowing God is Impartial.**

**Conclusion:** Paul gives clear and direct guidance for those who follow Jesus Christ; husbands, wives, children, parents, masters and servants. What area needs improvement? What changes do you need to make in your roles to honor Jesus Christ?

### **Life Application Questions:**

1. What roles mentioned by Paul in Ephesians 5 identify you? husband, wife, child, parent, master and servant?
2. What blessings do you experience in these roles? Challenges?
3. Do you agree with Paul that these roles ultimately reflect our relationship with Jesus? How have you found this to be true in your life?
4. What changes do you need to make so that you are honoring Jesus, giving glory to God and increasing your witness?
5. Is there an age where children no longer must obey their parents?
6. How important is it for parents to raise their children to know God, respect Him and serve Him?
7. What does it mean that God shows no partiality to masters or servants? What are the implications in your working relationships?