

## PARENTS AND CHILDREN

The Book of Ephesians

## Introduction

- I. The <u>Obedience</u> of Children Ephesians 6:1-3, Romans 1:29-31, 2 Timothy 3:1-5, Luke 2:51
  - A. Because It Is a Principle of Morality Ephesians 6:1, Colossians 3:20
  - B. Because It Is a Precept of Scripture Ephesians 6:2, Exodus 20:12
  - C. Because It Is a Protection for Children Ephesians 6:3
  - D. Because It Is a Promoter of Long Life Ephesians 6:3
- II. The Oversight of Parents Ephesians 6:4, Hebrews 11:23
  - A. The Principle of Discouragement Ephesians 6:4, Colossians 3:21
  - B. The Principle of **Diligence** Ephesians 6:4, Ephesians 5:29
  - C. The Principle of <u>Discipline</u> Ephesians 6:4, Hebrews 12:6
  - D. The Principle of <u>Direction</u> Ephesians 6:4, 2 Timothy 3:14-15

## Conclusion

SMALL GROUP QUESTIONS

Getting Started
1. When you were a child, were you inclined toward obeying your parents or away from obedience?
2. When you observe an obedient child, what are some common behaviors he/she exhibits? What about a disobedient child?
Going Deeper
1. Read Romans 1:29-31, 2 Timothy 3:1-5, and Luke 2:51. What picture does the Bible paint regarding obedience and the impact it has on society?

2. Describe the connection between parents disciplining their children and how that child will, most likely, turn out as an adult. How have you seen discipline used as a helpful, developmental tool for children?
3. Read Ephesians 6:4 and Colossians 3:21. How might parents provoke their children to wrath? In what way can parents irritate or discourage their kids?
4. Read Hebrews 12:6. How can a parent stay clear on the difference between disobedience and mistakes? When have you seen a child make an honest mistake and be disciplined for it?

5. Read 2 Timothy 3:14-15. In what way do parents create a home environment wherein learning the Scriptures is a normal way of life? Describe someone you know who does this well.
Applying the Message  1. As a parent, how are you doing? Is there a change that needs to be made in your home?
2. How might you make that change this week? What would be the first step you can take to foster the most God-honoring home possible?