



“Drawing From the Well”

“Therefore with joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation.” Isaiah 12:3

Womens Ministry of Calvary Chapel Bible Fellowship

EPHESIANS 6:1-9

Lesson 10

“For the most part, children do not create problems; they reveal them.

Parents who cannot discipline themselves cannot discipline their children.

If a father and mother are not under authority themselves, they cannot exercise authority over others.

It is only as parents submit to each other and to the Lord that they can exercise properly balanced spiritual and physical authority over their children.”

Warren Wiersbe

As we begin Ephesians Chapter 6, we find Paul directing his teaching on submission toward another aspect of the family – children and parents. He also shows us God’s plan for the proper relationship between slaves and their masters (employees and employers). If you don’t have children, realize that you are God’s child and He is your Master. This study will give us a better understanding of the Biblical view of a parent/child relationship.

We are all the offspring of another. Therefore, we are all children. However, in **Ephesians 6:1**, the word children is speaking of anyone who is still under the roof of or under the control and authority of his/her parents.

DAY ONE: Ephesians 6:1-9

1. Spend a moment in prayer asking the Spirit to show you His truth as you read **Ephesians 6:1-9**. Remember to ask yourself; *who, what, where, when, why and how*.
 - a. How would you summarize this portion of Scripture? Give **Ephesians 6:1-9** a one sentence title:

2. What do the following Scriptures tell you about children?
 - a. **Genesis 33:5b**
 - b. **Genesis 48:9**
 - c. **Psalm 127:3**
3. Children are not only a gift from God, in His eyes they are highly esteemed! What are some of the words used to describe children in the following verses?
 - a. **Psalm 127:4**
 - b. **Psalm 128:3**
 - c. **Proverbs 17:6**
 - d. How do these verses enlighten your view of children?
4. According to the following Scriptures, what did Jesus say about children?
 - a. **Matthew 18:1-5**

b. **Matthew 19:14**

5. In our busy and hurried schedules, we often hush our children or push them aside. Pray that you would take time to listen to your child (ren). Let them know they are precious gift from God to you!
6. What two commands are given children in **Ephesians 6:1-3**?
 - a.
 - b.
7. Look up the following words using your study tools:
 - a. **Obedience** (#5219)
 - b. **Honor** (#5091)
 - c. What is the difference?
8. What does it mean to obey "*in the Lord?*"
 - a. Does this mean children are to obey their **Christian** parents only?
 - b. Why or why not?
 - c. Would there be a reason a child should not obey his/her parents?
9. According to the following verses, **why** are children to obey their parents?
 - a. **Colossians 3:20**
 - b. **Ephesians 6:1**
10. To finish up our study today, let's take a look at how disobedience was dealt with in the Old Testament from **Deuteronomy 21:18-21**.

Personal: Take a few moments to consider your attitude toward your parents. Are you dishonoring them in any way? How might this reflect in your relationship you have with your children? How might this reflect in the relationship your children have with their grandparents? What can you do about these feelings?

*"Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right.
'Honor your father and mother,'
which is the first commandment with promise:
'that it may be well with you and you may live long on the earth.'"*
Ephesians 6:1-4

Note: The respect that a young child learns to give parents is a first step to learning respect for God, our Heavenly Father. Therefore, respect for one's parents is not just a natural and moral obligation, but also a spiritual principle that must be taught to our children!

DAY TWO:

1. As we have seen, children are required to obey and honor their parents. Today we will study the responsibilities that parents have toward their children. As in many areas, this is the opposite of how the world tells us to parent our children. Look up the following Scriptures and note what **God** has to say about parenting. Put an asterisk next to the Scriptures you need help with, and then pray that God would help you by His grace. (Please do not skip this question!)
 - a. **Deuteronomy 6:7**
 - b. **Proverbs 13:24**
 - c. **Proverbs 22:15**
 - d. **Proverbs 22:6**
 - e. **2 Corinthians 12:14**
 - f. **Ephesians 6:4b**
 - g. **1 Timothy 3:4**
 - h. **Titus 2:4**

2. Now look up the following words using your study tools. Hopefully this word study will help you to understand your role as a parent, present or future.
 - a. **Provoke - Wrath** (#3949)
 - b. Bring them **up** (#1625)
 - c. **Nurture** (#3809)
 - d. **Admonition** (#3559)

 - e. What is the difference between **Nurture** and **Admonition**?

3. Paul gives the command "**Father, do not provoke your children to wrath**" in **Ephesians 6:4**. This word **father** is usually used for the male head of the household. However, here it includes both parents. What will be the result when children are **provoked to anger** according to **Colossians 3:21**?

4. In the Old Testament there are many examples of children bringing dishonor upon their parents. What ways did the parents in each situation go wrong and what was the result? After looking up all these passages, choose one that spoke to you and share with your group.
 - a. **Genesis 25:24-34**

b. **Genesis 37:1-4**

c. **1 Samuel 3:10-14**

5. What does it mean to “*bring them up*” in the training and admonition of the Lord? You may want to refer back to the word study to help with your answer (question 2).
6. The book of Proverbs has a lot to say about raising children. Look up the following Scriptures and note what they have to say about the training or discipline of children.
- a. **Proverbs 19:18**
 - b. **Proverbs 22:15**
 - c. **Proverbs 23:13**
 - d. **Proverbs 22:6**
 - e. **Proverbs 29:15, 17**

DAY THREE:

1. Our responsibility to discipline our children is vital! In order to understand how important this principle is, let’s take a look at how God disciplines us as Christians. Prayerfully read **Hebrews 12:5-11**. Make note of why God disciplines (chastens) us next to each of the following verses.
- a. **Hebrews 12:6**
 - b. **Hebrews 12:8**
 - c. **Hebrews 12:9**
 - d. **Hebrews 12:10**
 - e. **Hebrews 12:11**
2. How does this help you to better understand the necessity of disciplining your children?
3. *How* are we *always* to discipline our children according to **Hebrews 12:6**?
4. As we saw yesterday, the book of Proverbs is filled with wise counsel to parents regarding their children. Just a few of these are listed below. Prayerfully read them and write down the results of heeding to a parent’s counsel.
- a. **Proverbs 1:8-9**

- b. **Proverbs 2:1-5**
- c. **Proverbs 3:1-2**
- d. **Proverbs 4:10-12**
- e. **Proverbs 4:20-22**
- f. **Proverbs 6:20-23**

5. In what practical ways can you train and admonish your children?

6. Even if you already pray for your children or grandchildren everyday, and hopefully you do, take some time to pray for them right now!

DAY FOUR: Ephesians 6:5-8

Now Paul turns our attention to the relationship between servants and their masters. There were about 6 million slaves in the Roman Empire in the day Paul wrote this letter and slavery was an accepted institution, as it is in many parts of the world today. Although slavery is not condemned in the New Testament, the overall thrust of the Gospel is against it. The commands given to slaves and masters can definitely apply to the employer/employee relationship today.

“Each person, in submission to the Lord, has no problems submitting to those over him”.

Warren Weirsbe

1. Prayerfully read **Ephesians 6:5-8**. Summarize Paul’s command to bondservants in this passage.
 - a. What does **Romans 13:1-3** say about authority?

2. Using your study tools, look up the word used for *servant* (#1401) and record your findings here.

3. How did Paul see himself according to the following verses?
 - a. **Galatians 1:10**
 - b. **Philippians 1:1**
 - c. What does this mean?

4. Look up the following words that Paul uses to tell servants how to be obedient in **verse 5**.
 - a. *Fear* (#5401)
 - b. *Trembling* (#5156)

- c. *Sincerity* of heart (#572)
 - d. List all the ways that Paul tells the servant to be obedient to his master from **verses 5-8**.
5. What type of attitude was Paul teaching the servants, according to the following verses?
- a. **Ephesians 6:5-8**
 - b. **1 Timothy 6:1**
 - c. **Titus 2:9**
6. List wrong attitudes that could get in the way of what Paul was trying to teach.
7. Here again, we see that the world's philosophy is wrong when compared with God's Word. The world has us "climbing the corporate ladder" with no regard to the one we step on. All for promotion in man's eye! (This could apply to anyone regardless of his or her position in life). God does not call us to serve with our sights on a temporal position, or approval from our friends. What do the following verses have to say about why we are called to serve?
- a. **1 Corinthians 10:31**
 - b. **1 Corinthians 15:58**
 - c. **Colossians 3:23-25**
 - d. What perspective are we to have according to **2 Corinthians 4:18**?
8. How could the wrong focus be a trap for a person, whether a mother, wife, employee or employer?

DAY FIVE: Ephesians 6:9

Although masters were given complete control over their slaves, a Christian master was expected to show the same justice and mercy, that he expected to receive from the Lord. Keep this in mind even if you have no formally established subordinates. As you probably oversee others from time to time (i.e. babysitters, Bible study groups, consultants, etc.)

1. Prayerfully read **Ephesians 6:9**.
 - a. Who is Paul speaking to?
 - b. What is Paul referring to when he tells masters to "*do the same things to them*"?
 - c. What is the master to keep in mind at all times?

2. Describe the attitudes the master should **not** have according to the following verses:

a. **Ephesians 6:9** – “give up _____”.

1) What does this word mean (#547)?

b. **James 5:4-6** “Indeed the wages of the laborers who mowed your fields, _____
_____, cry out; and the cries of the reapers have reached the
ears of the Lord of Sabbath. You have lived on the earth in pleasure and luxury; you have fattened your
hearts as in a day of slaughter.”

1) Summarize this attitude in one word _____.

2) What does **Jude 12** say about this attitude?

3. What should a person in authority always keep in mind when dealing with subordinates according to **Colossians 4:1**?

*“This does not mean a workman cannot be corrected or released if he is not diligent and loyal.
God does not encourage slothfulness or license or indulgence.
For God even chastens and disciplines when needed.”*

WORDsearch Commentary

4. Maybe you have an earthly master that is not just and fair. That does not give an excuse to negate our responsibility before God. (Remember, we have a personal, vertical relationship with Jesus). Look up **Hebrews 12:1-2**. According to these verses where should our focus be? Write out these verses and memorize them if you can!

5. Is there any area of your thought or behavior that you have been convicted of in your study dealing with authority and submission? If so, write it down along with a prayer to God for help in this area.

a. For encouragement, look up **Philippians 2:13** and write it here:

*“Now may the God of peace who brought up our Lord Jesus from the dead,
that great Shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant,
make you complete in every good work to do His will,
working in you what is well pleasing in His sight, through Jesus Christ,
to whom be glory forever and ever. Amen.”*

Hebrews 13:20-22