

The responsibilities of parents and children

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INTRODUCTION:

A. The lessons from this series:

1. 327_Introduction to the series about the family
2. 591_Marriage: Its purpose
3. 592_Marriage: Its permanency
4. 015_The man's role in marriage
5. 017_The woman's role in marriage
6. 498_A wife worth more than jewels
7. 244_When mommy is not home
8. 597_Loving intellectually
9. 598_The affectionate love
10. 599_Intimate love
11. 602_Communication
12. 604_Problems between husband and wife
13. **606_The responsibilities of parents and children**
14. 608_Training our children: Education
15. 609_Training our children: Chastisement
16. 610_Training our children: Direction
17. 612_Biblical cases of fathers and sons
18. 611_The relationship between siblings
19. 440_What every youth wants in reality
20. 618_Courtship: Preparation for marriage
21. 021_The family who is centered in Christ

B. The objective of this sermon:

1. It is to study the obligation of the children towards the parents and the responsibilities of the parents (fathers) towards the children.
 - a. The responsibilities of the children:
 - 1) To respect their parents
 - 2) To obey their parents
 - 3) To provide for their parents
 - b. The responsibilities of the parents:
 - 1) To love their children
 - 2) To practice impartiality
 - 3) To train their children (sharing this responsibility)

C. There must be an essential attitude, the word of God has the reason and it is the supreme standard! (2 Timothy 3:16-17).

[Let us begin with the first major point in this lesson...]

I. THE RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE CHILDREN

A. It often said that respect is earned, but according to the word of God children must respect their parents

1. Consider the following passage in the Bible (**Exodus 20:12**) – “Honor your father and your mother, that your days may be prolonged in the land which the Lord your God gives you”
 - a. What does it mean “honor”. Notice the following, a son could always be obedient to his parents without obeying this commandment of God! This commandment in the Old Testament speaks about respect to their **authority** as parents and by which all parental orders come from.
 - b. Also notice that this commandment of God follows five commandments of which speak about our duties, obligations to our neighbor. When teaching respect for the parents an important fundamental base is being laid out for the following commandments:
 - 1) **Respect for the human life** – “You shall not murder” (**Exodus 20:13**)
 - (a) See (**Exodus 21:15**) and (**Exodus 21:17**)
 - (b) The children are trained or should be trained to honor the authority of their parents and therefore he or she learns not to let their anger to kindle within them to do such atrocities as mentioned in previous points.
 - 2) **Respect for human morality** – “You shall not commit adultery” (**Exodus 20:14**). When the children are taught correctly they will learn to respect and honor the purity and loyalty of their parents. The parents of course will do not expose them to bad examples in speech, movies, dirty magazines, etc, nor should they allow them to bring such behavior inside their home.
 - 3) **Respect for human property** – “You shall not steal” (**Exodus 20:15**).
 - (a) The children are trained to respect the material possessions of the parents. They are not permitted to use them because their throwing a tantrum so they can misuse or abuse the parents possessions.
 - (b) The practice of many parents is to move everything valuable to the top shelf, so Johnny cannot grab that special object. There are limits at home, school, society, work place. Where is the child going to learn these rules?
 - 4) **Respect for human justice** – “You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor” (**Exodus 20:16**)
 - (a) It is not permitted for the child to bear false charges to their parents.
 - (b) Often when the child is reprimanded he or she will say, “Nobody loves me, you do not love me you are too severe. It is not fair!”
 - 5) **Respect for human individuality** – “You shall not covet your neighbor’s house...” (**Exodus 20:17**).
 - (a) The child should be taught about the different ages, abilities and work of the parents, to respect their different talents.
 - (b) Children also need to be taught not think they deserve everything right now what their parents work for so long in their lives.
2. Other passages in the Bible that teach respect for parents (**Leviticus 20:9; Deut. 27:16; Proverbs 19:26; 23:22-25; 30:17; Malachi 1:6**).
3. Parents must be respected
 - a. Even though imperfect (**Hebrews 12:9-10**)
 - b. Even if they make mistakes (**1 Timothy 5:1-2**), respect to the older man and woman. Even Timothy a preacher could not do it, neither could a son do that as well (**Genesis 9:20-27**).

B. Obeying parents

1. Consider (**Ephesians 6:1-3; Colossians 3:20** (“obey”); **Romans 1:30** (“disobedient to parents”); very important, “those who practice such things are worthy of death”, vs. **32**); **Deut. 21:18-21; Proverbs 15:5**).

2. Our responsibility to God comes first (**Acts 5:29**; compare with **1 Samuel 19:1, 17; 20:30-31**).
3. The perfect example of Jesus as a child (**Luke 2:51**)

C. Provisions for the parents

1. **Mark 7:9-13**
2. **1 Timothy 5:8** NAS77 – “But if anyone does not provide for his own, and especially for those of his household, he has denied the faith, and is worse than an unbeliever”
3. **Proverbs 28:24** NAS77 – “He who robs his father or his mother, and says, “It is not a transgression,” Is the companion of a man who destroys”. Compare with those who were robbing God by not give Him was it was due (**Malachi 3:8-9**).

II. THE RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE PARENTS

A. It is for the parents to love their children

1. Lack of this love is unnatural and condemns
 - a. **Romans 1:31** NAS77 – “unloving”, “without natural affection” – ASV, KJV “Astorgos signifies “without natural affection” (a, negative, and **storge**, “love of kindred,” especially of parents for children and children for parents...” – Vine
 - b. See (**2 Cor. 12:14**)
 - c. Predominance of abortion
 - d. The opinion of God to the effect, (**Romans 1:32**)
2. It cannot proceed the love of God
 - a. (**Deut. 13:6-11; Genesis 22:1**) Notice that Abraham believed in God (**Hebrews 11:17-19**) to walk by faith, everything that God tells us to do it is for our benefit and the wellbeing of our family!!
 - b. (**Matt. 10:34-37**) Christ came to bring sword!
 - c. If we let our love to our children precede our love to God, what are we teaching our children?
3. The fact that our children are loved does not mean they will turn out to be good children
 - a. David loved Amnon, but he did not turned out to be a good man (**2 Samuel 13:36, 39**).
 - b. David loved Absalom and even at his death but it seems that David did not accomplished his parental responsibilities with him.
 - c. Genuine love will include discipline, training, etc. (**Proverbs 3:11-12; 13:24**). David and his sons?? Notice the following text about Adonijah, (**1 Kings 1:5-6**) the son of David.

B. Practicing impartiality

1. Jacob and Esau (**Genesis 25:28; 27:5-17; 28:8-9**)
2. Joseph (**Genesis 37:3-4**).
3. Parents are to teach and train each individual child and training them in relationship with their siblings. Injustice should not be permitted, indifference, etc.

C. Sharing the training of the children

1. Fathers (**Ephesians 6:4**)
 - a. Not the “church” or “mother”. Notice that the author knew the words, “church”, “wives”, etc., having them use in the previous verses.
 - b. Why this responsibility to the fathers?
 - 1) Because they are the head of the household
 - 2) Why then should we overlook this great responsibility given to us by God?
 - 3) According to the Bible a father is not one who only supports his family economically, physically but also gives spiritual instruction to his family.
 - 4) When a father leaves all of his responsibility in discipline and the training for his children he has forsaken God’s commandment.
2. Mothers

- a. **1 Timothy 5:14; Proverbs 1:8; 14:1; (24:3-4); 23:22-25; 29:15; 31:26-27; Titus 2:4**
 - b. Example: **Acts 16:1-2**; How did Timothy become to be well spoken of? (**2 Timothy 1:5; 3:15**). Notice, it appears that Timothy's father was not a Christian.
 - c. The Christian mother that passes off her responsibility to the non-Christian fathers and or daycare is forsaken God's commandment.
 - d. Questions for the mothers:
 - 1) Will this bring sufficient time for you to be with your child?
 - 2) Quality, is your children getting the best out of you, or just what is left after a hard day at a secular job or social activities, etc.? Bad mood? Impatient?
 - 3) Priorities in this life, look at your child or children right now, then answer this question, what job would you consider being the most important work that you will ever do in your entire life?
3. Question for both parents:
- a. If work or some hobby or activity would deprive your children from getting certain material benefits, what would you do?
 - b. If work or other things deprive our children from spiritual provisions, mental and emotional that God have, what you I do? What would you do?
 - c. "And if a house is divided against itself, that house will not be able to stand" – (**Mark 3:25**).

CONCLUSION:

- A. For the sons (**Ephesians 6:2-3**)
- B. For the fathers (**Psalms 127:3-5**)

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