

WEEKLY WORSHIP GUIDE

Ephesians 6:1-3--March 3rd, 2024



Sermon Recap:

A Child's Responsibility

I. Called to Honor

There is inward and an outward responsibility in the role of children.

a. Respect

- Leviticus 19:3- Inwardly, there must be a respect/reverence for the person and position of parent.
 - This will be manifested outwardly in words and gestures marked by loving respect.

b. Obedience

- An outward expression of honoring parents will be seen in obedience.
- Colossians 3:20- Children obey *in all things*. The only exception is that children obey *in the Lord* (Ephesians 6:1). Children obey unless instructed to contradict the commands of God.
- Characteristics of Obedience:
 - Promptness
 - Cheerfulness
 - Self-Denial

II. Reasons for Honor

Three reasons in Ephesians 6:1-3 for why a child is to honor their parents in respect and obedience:

a. It's Right

- **V.1-** This is the created order of the home. Children submit to the authority of the parent according to God's design.

b. It's Commanded

- **V.2-** Paul quotes Exodus 20:12, repeating the commands of the law delivered to Israel.
- God is sovereign and the final authoritative. Thus, his Word and commands are authoritative.
- To honor and obey parents is to honor and obey God.
- To dishonor and disobey parents is to sin against God.

c. It's Rewarded

- **V.2-3-** God blesses obedience.
- The path of obedience is always the path to blessing.
- Like God's instruction to Israel, the parent's instruction leads to a life that "may go well" and longevity.
- Disobedience leads to danger, despair, and death.

Discussion Questions:

- How can a child honor their parents inwardly and outwardly?
- What is respect?
- What are three characteristics of obedience?
- How does honoring our parents contribute to our well being?
- What are three reasons for honoring parents according to Ephesians 6:1-3?
- How does honoring parents reflect our relationship with God and our understanding of authority?
- What are some practical ways children can honor their parents in today's society?

Application:

- Would you say that you honor your parents? Would they say the same thing?
- Would your children say that they honor you? Would you say the same thing?
- Do you see your children walking a path of obedience leading to blessing or disobedience leading to cursedness? What is your role as a parent to encourage or correct that?
- How can parents cultivate an environment where children are more inclined to honor and obey them?
- What assumptions on respect do you currently have? Do they fit into this passage?

