

D. Obeying your parents protects you

“it may be well with you...that you may live long on the earth” (Ephesians 6:3)

“He who curses his father or his mother shall surely be put to death” (Exodus 21:17; cf. 21:15)

“Do not be deceived, God is not mocked; for whatever a man sows, this he will also reap. For the one who sows to his own flesh will from the flesh reap corruption, but the one who sows to the Spirit will from the Spirit reap eternal life” (Galatians 6:7-8)

E. Obeying your parents is a good testimony

“let your light shine before men, that they may see your good deeds and praise your Father in heaven” (Matthew 5:16)

“an overseer...must manage his own family well and see that his children obey him with proper respect; if anyone does not know how to manage his own family, how can he take care of God’s church?” (1 Timothy 3:4-5)

“Children, Obey Your Parents!”

Ephesians 6:1-3

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“¹Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this right. ²HONOR YOUR FATHER AND MOTHER (which is the first commandment with a promise), ³SO THAT IT MAY BE WELL WITH YOU, AND THAT YOU MAY LIVE LONG ON THE EARTH”

I. Children are commanded by God to obey

A. It is your main priority

“Children, obey your parents in everything” (Colossians 3:20).

B. It refers to dependent children of all ages

1. “Children” = *teknon*, this Greek word for ‘child’ “implies a dependent relationship upon the parent...children old enough to understand and exercise their free will”; dependent offspring of all ages; those who have not yet left “father and mother” (Ephesians 5:31).
2. Not *uios* = “a male” (Matthew 1:21); “distant relative” (Matthew 1:1); “spiritual offspring” (Galatians 3:26).
3. Not *paidion* = “newborn child” (Luke 2:17).

4. Not *brephos* = “unborn child” (Luke 1:41)
or “newborn baby” (Luke 2:12)

5. Deuteronomy 21:18-21!

C. Children are to obey with the right actions

“obey” = *hup* + *akouw* = “to listen under”; “to obey, to follow, to do what one is told, to carry out orders”

‘First-time obedience’

D. Children are to obey with the right attitude

“Honor your father and mother”

“Every one of you shall reverence his mother and his father” (Leviticus 19:3)

“My son...keep my commands in your heart” (Proverbs 3:1)

“man looks at the outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart” (1 Samuel 16:7)

“to obey is better than sacrifice” (1 Samuel 15:22)

“this people honors Me with their lips, but their heart is far away from Me” (Matthew 15:8)

E. Children are to obey both parents equally

“obey your parents...your father and mother” (Ephesians 6:1-2)

“Listen, my son, to your father’s instruction and do not forsake your mother’s teaching” (Proverbs 1:8)

F. Children are to obey on a regular basis

“obey” is ‘present tense’ = ongoing, pattern of behavior

II. There are blessings if you obey your parents

A. Obeying your parents is an act of worship

“for this is well-pleasing to the Lord” (Colossians 3:20)

“present your bodies a living and holy sacrifice, acceptable to God, which is your spiritual service of worship” (Romans 12:1)

“rebellion...and insubordination is like iniquity and idolatry” (1 Samuel 15:23)

B. Obeying your parents pleases your parents

“The father of a righteous man has great joy; he who has a wise son delights in him; may your father and mother rejoice” (Proverbs 23:24-25)

C. Obeying your parents prepares you for life

“Every person is to be in subjection to the governing authorities; for there is no authority except from God, and those which exist are established by God” (Romans 13:1)