

CHILDREN AND MINISTRY

FAMILY AND MINISTRY SERIES PART IV

"Children, obey your parents in the Lord: for this is right."

~ Ephesians 6:1

1. To Children

- a. You are an important part of your family (*without you there is only a marriage*)
- b. God teaches parents and the church to love their children – Titus 2:4, Col 3:21, Eph 6:4
- c. In the Bible, children are a heritage, light, blessing, reward, sign, wonder, fruit, life
- d. You have life ahead of you, but how much? Psalm 90:10
- e. Do you know Jesus? When do you think you will die? 2 Cor 5:10, Rom 14:12
- f. Jesus will come back, to war against sin to remove it – Rev 19:11, 2 Th 1:7-10
- g. Children need salvation, can learn and understand, and have a responsibility in the Lord.

2. Your Job as Children

- a. What do you want to be? 1 Tim 4:6,4:8, 6:6; Phi 4:8
- b. God speaks to you in the Bible. Where? Col 3:20, Eph 6:1
- c. God has called you to a job – Eph 4:1, 5:1, 6:1 – Obey your parents.
- d. It is the same job that adults have → Ephesians 4:14, Col 1:9-12 – to grow up!
- e. Obeying your parents is not because you are slaves, but because you need to grow.
- f. What does it mean to be grown up?
 - i. Do you buy groceries, pay bills, do taxes, laundry, fix house, car, make money?
 - ii. It is not only getting older, getting bigger, getting to do what you want.
- g. "Growing up" means:
 - i. Learning to be care for yourself and others → Responsibility
 - ii. Learning how to make right choices → Wisdom
- h. Timothy learned from his grandmother and mother – 2 Tim 1:5, 3:15-17
- i. Solomon asked the Lord for wisdom as a child – 1 Kings 3:7, 1 Cor 14:20
- j. Jesus heard and answered questions as he grew – Luke 2:40-52
- k. What does it mean to be a Christian? You trust Christ to grow, live, and walk.

3. How to Grow Up

- a. You need to grow up in the Lord.
- b. Where to get wisdom and gain responsibility? People, experience, Bible.
 - i. 1) Look for others to help you grow – uncles, aunts, grandparents, elders 1Ti 5:1
 - ii. 2) Get experience (this takes time, money, trouble) – Rom 5:2-3
 - iii. 3) Study the Bible – learn from God the godly father of us all.
- c. "*honor your father and mother*" – Eph 6:2
 - i. Why? They gave you life, time, food, when you were helpless and could not.
 - ii. How? Say, thank you. I love you. Live your life to bring them joy.
 - iii. Obeying your parents brings godliness to your family, else trouble and division.
- d. Every parent wants their child to be a success (they are unique/a gift from God)
 - i. Adults → how many would give wisdom to these children if they asked?
- e. Be excited for the Lord, Bible. It will profit you in life. It gives you wisdom beyond years.