



Monthly Study Guide

OBEDIENCE



This sample study guide focuses on how you can increase the trait of obedience in your family using resources from the *Encourage, Equip & Inspire* parenting manual.

Suggested studies and discussions that optimize lessons, concepts and activities from the manual are listed for a four-week period. Options are not listed in a daily order. Simply choose the options that best fit your family and schedule.

IDEAS FOR SPECIFIC AGES



Preschooler

Games and physical activities are a great way to engage children of this age. Games like “Red Light, Green Light” or “Simon Says” are fun ways to teach obedience. Preschoolers may also enjoy puppet shows or acting out the stories of the Bible heroes you study.



Grade-schooler

In addition to reenacting Bible stories, grade-schoolers may also benefit from slogans and mottoes to aid in memorization of obedience concepts or scriptures. Board games are also a great way to teach that rules are important and fair. Children in this age group might enjoy creating their own games.



Preteen

Pour on the love! Children in this age group are likely experiencing considerable pressure to rebel and need your reassurance. Focus on the positive as much as possible and point out their examples of obedience, thanking them for honoring you and especially God in this way.



Teen

Keep pouring on the love, and add consistency and listening skills to your expert parenting repertoire. Ask thought-provoking questions about choices and consequences, not to interrogate but to encourage deep reflection. Encourage your teens to do a study on [Psalm 119](#) and to share their thoughts after meditating on each section of the psalm.



WEEK 1

<input type="checkbox"/>	Read through the Shepherding the Heart study “ Obedience. ” Make it your personal Bible study focus, looking up and meditating on each scripture reference.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Pray daily for help in trusting in and submitting to God more.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Pray daily also for wisdom in instructing, directing, correcting and protecting your children.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Write out a definition of obedience on poster board or card stock, as instructed in the “ Obedience ” lesson, and display it. A young child might enjoy putting stickers on the poster as rewards for obedient behavior.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Write out one or two scriptures that inspire obedience, either from the content of the “ Obedience ” lesson—including the Guard and Guide Scriptures or the Further Recommended Reading section—or choose your own. Review the scriptures daily.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Do you have a set of family rules? If not, create one with rules such as “No screen time until homework is completed” or other rules that fit your family’s rhythm. Decide on appropriate consequences like loss of social media privileges for a certain period of time, placing a cherished toy off-limits for a day, adding a chore like raking leaves, and so on. Display the rules and the consequences of breaking them so everyone can see and understand them.

Notes



WEEK 2

<input type="checkbox"/>	Continue in your daily prayers about obedience.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Point out to your children that even you as a parent must be obedient—to God.
<input type="checkbox"/>	In the Memorizing Scripture section from the “Which Scriptures?” segment, locate the verse Psalm 119:11 on page 9 and do the interaction with your child. Encourage a dialogue about loving God and His word and how obeying Him and His instructions is a reflection of that love.
<input type="checkbox"/>	In the Memorizing Scripture section from the “Which Scriptures?” segment, locate the verse John 14:15 on page 12 and do the interaction with your child. Explain that God gave us specific standards to follow <i>because</i> He loves us: they are for our benefit. Emphasize that rules and guidelines keep us safe and happy.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Study the lesson “Abraham and the Amazing Promises” from the People of the Bible section. Share your study with your children, discussing how Abraham exhibited great faith and obedience in trusting and believing God.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Praise your children when they are obedient. Reinforce how pleased it makes you when they follow your directions (which are based on God’s directions) and how pleased God is when He sees them obeying you. Cultivate obedience with praise.

Notes



WEEK 3

<input type="checkbox"/>	Choose an example from Scripture of Bible heroes who exhibited obedience to God, such as Noah, Jonah, or Moses. Listen to sermons about them or find articles on them at LifeHopeandTruth.com and share your conclusions with your children. You may wish to “assign” a Bible hero to older children and have them do their own research and present their findings over dinner or as a special Sabbath family Bible study.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Continue in your prayers about obedience. By now you are likely becoming aware of certain aspects of obedience in which you struggle and in which your children struggle. Pray specifically about those challenges.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Study the lesson “The Israelites, Manna, and an Important Lesson” from the “What’s New?” page on the EEI website. Share your study with your children, discussing the consequences of obedience and disobedience for the Israelites.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Study the blessings and curses chapters in the Bible (Leviticus 26 and Deuteronomy 28). Listen to a sermon on this subject or find an article about it and share your conclusions with your children. Discuss why there should be consequences for disobedience and rewards for obedience.
<input type="checkbox"/>	One law your children probably find easy to follow is the clean and unclean meats law. Download the activity “Clean and Unclean Meats Wheel” from the Additional Resources section on the EEI website and create as many silly or serious wheels as you like. Encourage older children to find the evidence in the New Testament for why we still keep the food laws.

Notes
