

Growing Together

Families 12:
God wants children to obey their parents.

Bible Story

Timothy obeys Lois, Eunice, and Paul
(Ephesians 6:1-3;
1 Timothy 4:7b, 12, 13, 16;
2 Timothy 2:16, 23; 4:2, 5).

Bible Verse

“Children, obey your parents because you belong to the Lord, for this is the right thing to do”
(Ephesians 6:1).

In Touch

Today your child learned that God wants children to obey their parents. The children learned that obedience will help them have happy lives. The children also learned that sometimes obeying is hard but the rewards are great. Use these activities to encourage your child to obey.

Obedience Caps

Bring Deuteronomy 6:8 alive to your child. Purchase a plain baseball cap and puffy fabric paint at a craft store. (You could also use a cap that you already have.) Read the verse with your child, and have him or her paint the hat with symbols that will remind him or her to obey God’s Word. Encourage your child to wear the hat often.

List of Rules

Have your child talk with older people in your family, church, or neighborhood about the rules they remember from their youth. See how many different rules your child can collect. Have your child write them on a large piece of paper. Write down rules your child follows on another sheet of paper. Ask your child these questions: How are the lists of rules similar? different? Were others’ rules stricter? What would it be like to grow up following the rules the older people followed?

Dessert Directions

With your child, stir up a batch of blueberry muffins from a mix that includes a can of blueberries. Before you add the blueberries, divide the batter

into two bowls. Point out that the directions say to rinse the blueberries. Spoon half the blueberries into a strainer, and rinse them well. Gently fold them into one bowl of batter. Spoon off most of the juice from the rest of the blueberries, but don’t rinse them. Stir them into the other bowl of batter. Fill the muffin tins with batter, and bake according to the package’s directions. Compare the color of the muffins. The muffins with unrinsed blueberries will be grayish blue. Talk about how important it is to obey and to follow directions. Split the gray muffins, and put them in dessert bowls. Top them with whipped cream and frozen strawberries or cherry-pie filling. Explain that God—and parents!—still loves us and will forgive us when we disobey and that when we say we’re sorry, God is still willing to include us in his exciting plan. Enjoy the dessert while you talk about God’s love.

Scavenger Rules

Take a walk through your neighborhood, and make a list of all the rules you find. Include stop signs, traffic lights, keep-off-the-grass signs, and other rules. Talk about why there are rules to follow. What would life be like in your town if there were no rules? Thank God for keeping your family safe with rules.