

06-15-14

Scripture: Ephesians 6:1-4

Title: Honor your Father and Mother

I know today is Father's Day

Sermon directed to Father's – supposed to be

Kinda missed Mother's day – directing a sermon
to the ladies...

So what I thought – I'd cover it all

Something for dads, moms and even kids 😊

Children

Ephesians 6:1

This verse always reminds me of Alicia, when she was little, had many struggles and we were going to therapy – 3 hour drive, one way, every other week

We were trying to teach her this verse

Thought it might help

She kept on saying – parents obey your children

After sometime we realized she was also saying

Ephesians six one

The word for children in this verse is the general word

It is not the word for infant

It is the general word for offspring

Any child from infancy through young adult

Living under authority of parents

Old enough to know right from wrong
Children are to be taught to obey
From the earliest age onward

Obey

Obey here is 2 words in the Greek

One is to listen

The other is to get under

Obedience is to get under and listen

Come under what your parents are saying

Submit to what your parents tell you

This is actually a very serious thing to God

Consider these OT verses...

Exodus 21:15,17

Hitting your parents was to result in death

Cursing/disrespecting parents was to result in death

The children who hit or disrespected their
parents were to die

This is a big deal, very important

God in His grace and mercy, at this time of redemptive
history, doesn't repeat these commands here

Point is... This is serious business...

As fathers and mothers – this is important for us to teach our children – they need to understand this

As grandparents, as friends – all need to help

All need to practice – what does your

Mom or Dad say...

As kids – obvious something needed to be learned

Proverbs has a lot of instructions in this area

Proverbs 1:8

Proverbs 3:1-2

Proverbs 4:1-4

That is only the beginning – many more

Proverbs 30 has the opposite...

Proverbs 30:11-13

Then further down...

Proverbs 30:17

Pretty big deal...pretty important...

How do we teach our children to obey?

It involves discipline – work at it and discipline them to learn it

Again in Proverbs we read

Proverbs 3:11-12

Parents who truly love their children

Discipline them

Not always pleasant at the time

Yields wonderful fruit

Discipline is one thing that fathers should do

It is also something mothers should do

Rewarding obedience

Punishing disobedience

Discipline gives the appropriate reward for the conduct

Teaching our kids God's Word

Pouring it into their lives

Pouring it into our lives

That is part of discipline

Proverbs 6:20-23

Bind them continually – attach them so they can't get away from them

Keep God's Word ever before them

And before yourself...

In the Lord

- *...obey your parents in the Lord*

Come under, submit to yours parents in the Lord

This is what God wants you to do

Do it to honor God

Do it to please God

Is the Lord pleased w/ what you're doing?

Is the Lord pleased w/ your attitude?

Constant reminder – this is bigger than mom
and dad – this is about God

As much as parents can do...

We really need what God can do

His blessings are greater...

We want our kids in a position where God will bless
them – kids you want to be in that position also...

When we teach them to obey

It is helping and teaching them to obey God

It is right

Why should they be taught to obey?

It helps them obey God and...

B/c it is right

Right appears many times in NT

Close to 200 times

In our day of no absolutes – God is absolute

He says this is right

You can try and argue w/ God...

The usual question – but why?

B/c it's right...

Who made it right?

God!

There is right and wrong

And it is determined by God

But everybody else is doing it...

Do we do what everyone else does?

Or, do we do what God says?

We follow the Lord

We follow His Word, His commands

This is right, it is righteous

Obedying parents is obeying God

Submitting to parents is submitting to God

This makes it even more important as parents –
that what we ask our children to do is biblical

They are learning to obey us and as a
result learning to obey God

Our commands, what we ask cannot be
random or by chance – it needs to come
from God's Word

How long do we have to obey?

All of us are children, even if we have children
of our own, and grandchildren...

Do we still have to obey our parents?

As long as we are living in their house we need to
obey them

After we leave their house, the obedience changes, we
always need to honor them

Listen to their advice and counsel

Weigh carefully what they say

What if we do not have godly parents?

Do we still have to obey?

Do we still have to honor?

It is difficult answer, difficult to do

As a child in their home we must obey

Unless they are trying to get us to do s. outside
of what God has said to do

...When obeying them means disobeying God

When out of the home – don't have to always obey,
still need to honor them – whether they are godly or
not – whether we agree w/ them or not

May disagree – still need to honor them

Honor your parents

Ephesians 6:2

Not only do we as fathers and mothers deal w/ our
children's actions, their behavior

This verse talks about their attitude

We need to work on their attitude

Where does this honor your father and mother come
from?

Goes all the way back to Exodus 20 – the 10
commandments

Again we see God not only working on the outside actions but on the inner attitudes...

He wants our hearts to be his

We are not just following a set of rules

The child's obedience is to be based on respect, honor and reverence

Their obedience isn't to be selfish, bitter, resentful or fearful

It is to be loving and respectful obedience

What is honor?

Greek word here, the root is, *timao*

Value at a high price – value

Value your father and mother – put a high price on them – not as in a bounty – but as their value

We are to realize the great treasure we have in our parents

First commandment w/ a promise

We receive blessing from doing this

Have been talking about blessing – happiness

Blessed/happy are the poor in spirit...

Blessing – happiness comes from obeying and honoring our parents

You want a happy life, you want a full life?

Obey, honor your parents

Why is this the commandment w/ a promise?

This relationship, w/ our parents, is the core

It is the most basic

It is the core of the family, the church and society

The Promise

Ephesians 6:3

What a promise...

This is not only talking quantity of life – length

This is talking quality of life

Obedience, honoring parents results in a full, rich, joyous, happy, peaceful, rewarding life

The quality of blessedness

The promise is for a long, full life

Not cut short b/c of sin, b/c of disobedience

Don't provoke

Ephesians 6:4

Was originally going to skip this verse, run out of time...*Fathers don't provoke your children to anger...*

Difficult one when dealing w/ kids

In We are Still Married, Garrison Keillor writes: The town ball club was the Lake Wobegon Schroeders, so named b/c the starting nine were brothers, sons of E.J. Schroeder. E.J. was ticked off if a boy hit a bad pitch. He'd spit and curse and rail at him. And if a son hit a homerun, E.J. would say, "Blind man coulda hit that one. Your grandma coulda put the wood on that one. If a guy couldn't hit that one out, there'd be something wrong with him, I'd say. Wind practically took that one out of here, didn't even need to hit it much" – and lean over and spit.

So his sons could never please him, and if they did, he forgot about it. Once, against Freeport, his oldest boy, Edwin Jim, Jr., turned and ran to the center-field fence for a long, long, long fly ball. He threw his glove forty feet in the air to snag the ball and caught the ball and glove. When he turned toward the dugout to see if his dad had seen it. E.J. was on his feet clapping, but when he saw the boy look to him, he immediately pretended he was swatting mosquitoes. The batter was called out, the third out. Jim ran back to the bench and stood by his dad. E.J. sat chewing in silence and finally said, "I saw a man in Superior, Wisconsin, do that a long time ago. But he did it at night, and the ball was hit a lot harder.

Now, let me get this straight

We are to teach our kids to obey

It takes discipline to do this
We are to teach our kids to honor us
It takes more discipline for this
Now... We can't make them angry...
How does that work?

You have a child who is disobeying you...
You need to stop them
Keep them from disobeying
Can't make them mad...

It goes back to purpose, it goes back to our attitude
Our intention, our purpose as purpose should
never be to anger our children
We discipline, we instruct them so they
will feel sorry – not to make them angry
Make them sorry they violated our
love and care for them
Make them sorry they dishonored
God
Sorry they forfeited their blessing
Warn them they are heading down a path that will not
only shorten but damage the quality of their life

As parents, dads and moms, we want to make them
sorry, never angry at us or at God

This verse is translated fathers

The Greek could be either – dads or moms
We all get to share in this ☺

Provoke – is an intense form of to make angry in
Greek – create an irritation that angers them

Exasperates, frustrates, embitters or disheartens

Careful balance here – parents have authority, parents
are supposed to discipline – teach them to obey and to
honor...

Few things to guard against...

Overprotection, Favoritism

Unrealistic expectations – like baseball dad...

Discouragement

Not allowing for them growing up

Always discipline in the context of love

And, as always...teach them God's word

Conclusion:

These verses sound good

Would say we all agree with them

Can be difficult at times

It is right for children to obey their parents

It is our job as parents to teach them this

What if your parents aren't believers?

We can still honor them

How can we honor parents who are not godly, who haven't done the best job?

Do we still have to honor them?

There are no conditions on this verse

It is still right

How do we honor someone who has abused us?

That is a difficult one

You can't honor, or condone, their behavior

Still they are the instrument by which you were given life – God used them for that (if nothing else)

The things that you endured – made you what you are today

Not always easy to do, have to be careful

Deal w/ my kids w/ birth parents

Give eye color, hair color, etc...

Challenge – as parents teach our kids to obey, to honor

As someone's child – seek ways to honor parents...

Benediction:

Ephesians 6:2-3

2 HONOR YOUR FATHER AND MOTHER (which is the first commandment with a promise), 3 SO THAT IT MAY BE WELL WITH YOU, AND THAT YOU MAY LIVE LONG ON THE EARTH

Sermon outline

06-15-14

Ephesians 6:1-4

C_____

O_____

In the L_____

It is r_____

H_____ your p_____

The P_____

Don't p_____