

TEACH YOUR CHILDREN WELL

September 16 2012 Ephesians 6:1-4 by Bob Branch
Living Out Our Inheritance In Christ, Part 29

MAIN IDEA: When Jesus comes into someone's life there are sweeping changes that follow. It infects who we are *personally*... who we are as a *husband* or *wife*... who we are as *parents*... who we are as *kids*.

Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. "Honor your father and mother"—which is the first commandment with a promise— "so that it may go well with you and that you may enjoy long life on the earth." Fathers, do not exasperate your children; instead, bring them up in the training and instruction of the Lord. **Ephesians 6:1-4**

In the Lord...

1. Obey means to **LISTEN QUICKLY** to and **YIELD**.

(Exodus 20:12) Honor deals with the heart, with is the action.

2. Obeying **UNLEASHES** God's promised blessing on your life, as well as a long life.

If someone curses their father or mother, their lamp will be snuffed out in pitch darkness. **Proverbs 20:20**

3. Use strategy, **RESTRAINT** and understand what you are creating with your actions and words.

Fathers, do not embitter your children, or they will become discouraged. **Colossians 3:21**

React vs. Respond

Willful defiance vs. Childish irresponsibility

4. To train involves **SHAPING** your children into responsible people.

Train up a child in the way he should go; even when he is old he will not depart from it. **Proverbs 22:6** ESV

- Shaping involves **consequences & discipline**.
- Shaping involves **structure, boundaries and rules**.
- Shaping involves **care, attention and affection**.

5. Teach them **GOD'S WAYS**, to know Him & follow Him.

Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one. Love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength. These commandments that I give you today are to be on your hearts. Impress them on your children. *Talk about them* when you sit *at home* and when you *walk* along the road, when you *lie down* and when you *get up*. **Deuteronomy 6:4-7**

And he will turn the hearts of fathers to their children and the hearts of children to their fathers... **Malachi 4:6** ESV

Children will invariably talk, eat, walk, think, respond, and act like their parents. Give them a target to shoot at. Give them a goal to work toward. Give them a pattern that they can see clearly, and you give them something that gold and silver cannot buy. **Billy Graham**

Jesus loves you and is reaching out to you today. He wants you to open the door to your heart and invite Him in. Here's a prayer to help you make this connection with Him.

Dear Lord Jesus, I know that I am a sinner and need Your forgiveness. I believe that You died for my sins. I turn from my sins to you. I now invite You to come into my heart and life. I trust you and want to follow You as Lord and Savior. In Your name. Amen.

If you prayed this prayer for the first time today, would you please let us know by filling out a Lifeline card and dropping it in the Offering Box? Thanks so much.