

PERSPECTIVE

Children Obey Your Parents

Level of Biblical Learning:
God tells children to respect and obey their parents.

Colossians 3:18-21

Parent Helps:

- Talk about your family's "House Rules." What are some things your child is expected to do or not do?
- Ask: "Why do you think we have rules at our house?" Mention that you have rules in place to teach your child and to keep him safe.
- Read Colossians 3:20.
- Say: "This Bible verse reminds children to obey their parents in everything. Do you think the Bible verse means you should obey right away or obey whenever you get around to it? Do you think you should obey with a good attitude or obey after complaining?"
- Mention that most kids obey their parents to stay out of trouble or because they want an allowance (or a special privilege). Those are good reasons to obey, but they are not the best reasons! Kids should obey their parents because that's what Jesus did! Explain that obeying your parents is a way to follow Jesus' example and show love to God.

Discussion Questions:

Younger Kids:

1. Tell about a time when you obeyed your parents. What happened?
2. Tell about a time when you disobeyed your parents. What happened?
3. Why do you think God wants children to obey their parents?

Older Kids:

1. How does obedience show love to your parents? To God?
2. When are times that it is difficult to obey?
3. What can you do when you are tempted to disobey?

Apply:

- Remember that God's plan for families is for them to love, respect, and help one another. (Proverbs 1:8-9; Ephesians 6:1-4; Colossians 3:18-20; 1 Peter 5:5; 1 John 3:18; 4:11)
- Follow Jesus' example and choose to obey. (Luke 2:51)
- Understand that obedience shows love to your parents and to God. (Psalm 127:3-5; Proverbs 20:11; John 14:15; 1 Timothy 4:12; 1 John 5:3)

Activity:

Play a game of "Simon Says." Involve the whole family (parents included!). Make the game silly and fun. Remind kids that it is important to obey instructions. God tells children to respect and obey their parents.

Pray Together:

- Pray and thank God for your child.
- Ask God to help you teach your child to love and obey Him.
- Ask God to help your family display the character of Jesus in the ways you love, respect, and help one another.