# **Sermon Notes**

## Children: Obey While You Must; Honor While You Can

Ephesians 6:1-3, Deuteronomy 5:16

For the Spirit-filled Christian, reverence for Christ permeates every all of life. Life is not segmented into the public or private realm, the religious or the secular. Every circumstance and every relationship is seen from a kingdom perspective. Christ has been declared to be "head over all things to the church". He is Lord of all, from the heavens above down to our individual hearts and homes. The Spirit's presence and power in our lives keeps us mindful of Christ's supremacy and enables us to submit to one another out of reverence to Christ. This supernatural recognition of authority and submissiveness is commanded of us in our marriages, and as we see today, is commanded of children who are called to obey and honor our parents. This obedience goes much deeper than right behavior. Scripture calls children to submit to their parents in both action and attitude. Obedience and honor toward our parents will look different in the various stages of life, but the foundational principle holds true from the cradle to the grave.

### Children, when your parents love Jesus, they love you better.

Parents who have been transformed by God's grace will seek to parent their children accordingly. They parent their children by means of the gospel, with the goal of shepherding their kids toward Christ, who is the only one with enough wisdom, grace, love, and power to transform sinners (YES – our kids are sinners!) into Kingdom saints and citizens.

#### Children, obey your parents as you would the Lord Himself.

This is this is the right this to do. This is a product of 'natural law', throughout all time and all cultures this is a recognized truth. This is the Godly thing to do. Scripture takes this to a new level – to a deeper understanding. God's law requires that children obey their parents. This is also the best thing to do. The command comes with the promise of God's blessing.

### Children, honor your parents in accordance with God's good law.

Obedience to parents is a duty that is comprehensive when we are young, but as we age the relationship requirements change. While the responsibilities toward our parents change through the seasons of life, the command to honor them, and the promise of blessing as we do, is lifelong.

# Weekly Discipleship Guide

## Know

What does God intend for me to know? In your journal, use the following prompts to write some truths that stood out from this week's message.

I never knew...

I was reminded...

A question I still have...

I was challenged...

I was convicted...

A truth I could share...

I was encouraged to...

I need to dig deeper into...

# Be (Consider)

What does God's Word lead me to prayerfully consider? In your journal, use the following questions to write some prompts to use in praying through this week's passage.

Is there a command to obey?

How am I compelled to exalt God?

Is there a promise to claim? Is there a principle to follow?

Is there an example to follow?

Am I convicted to confess any sin?

Is there a sin to avoid?

How do I need to rest in Jesus/the gospel?

How can I pray for someone else?

What am I compelled to love or desire?

# Do (Yield)

How does God's Word call me to yield my life? In your journal, write your answers and thoughts in response to the following questions.

How do the objectives, or goals, of believing parents differ from those outside of Christ? How do these objectives shape a distinction in the way that believers parent within our culture?

This is a wonderful week for meaningful Titus 2 type discussion. Parents of older or grown children, how does this message provoke you to encourage younger parents with younger children? Younger parents still in the intense season of raising your children, what questions do you have for parents who have gone before you? How can we encourage each other in this area?

Have you faced struggle or difficulty in seeking to honor your parents as they grow older and develop needs that come with aging? How has God proven faithfulness through persevering in obedience to honor them, and how might your group pray for you now if you are in the midst of that struggle?

\*Use this guide to help you internalize this week's message & to prepare for Life Group.

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