

## Love and Marriage

### Setting the Context:

Ephesians 6:1-4

Our ability to apply God's Word to our relationships with our family demonstrates how much **control** God's Spirit has over our lives.

### Family Life:

#### The Child's Role

For children to obey their parents is absolutely **essential**.

Obedience is the primary way that children can **honor** their parents.

#### The Parent's Role

Avoid provoking your child to **anger** unnecessarily.

##### How to Make Your Child Angry

1. Be **Absent**
2. Be Uncaring & **Uninvolved**
3. **Spoil** Them
4. Don't Keep Your **Promises**
5. Use Punitive **Discipline**
6. Be a **Hypocrite**
7. Never **Apologize**
8. Use Unbalanced **Strictness**
9. Make Them **Earn** Your Approval & Acceptance
10. Be Overly **Critical**

##### Discipline & Instruction of the Lord

1. Read God's **Word** with Them
2. Be a Good **Example**
3. Use Teachable **Moments**

# Growth Group Devotional

For the Week of October 11, 2009

## Getting Started

1. As you reflect on last weekend's sermon, what one principle or insight stands out as being particularly helpful, insightful, or difficult to grasp?
  - a. Proverbs 6:20; Colossians 3:20
  - b. Deuteronomy 5:16
  - c. Deuteronomy 6:1-12
  - d. Psalms 78:4
2. Which phrase(s) best describe(s) the attitudes in the home you grew up in- and why?
  - a. high expectations
  - b. live and let live
  - c. harsh
  - d. tolerant
  - e. merciful
3. If you had to re-write the Ten Commandments, would you include this commandment about honoring your mother and father? Why or why not?
4. God's word often gives children and parents instructions regarding the rules and regulations of their relationship! According to the passages listed below, what are God's expectations of children, and what are His expectations of parents? (List all insights, questions, or key observations beneath each passage.)
  5. What are some practical ways that children can honor their parents? What are some practical ways that parents can train their children?
  6. Imagine for a moment that your child(ren) has decided to throw a banquet in your honor; what do you hope they will say to "honor you?" What would you say about your parent(s) if you did the same for them?

## **Married with Children**

7. Do you agree with the statement, "If you do not discipline your children, someone else will have to (including life)?" Explain your answer.

### **Digging Deeper**

8. When it comes to the Parent-Child relationship, which of the principles do you come by most naturally?
- a. Which comes hardest?
- b. Is there anything you need to do as a result of what you've learned this week?

### **Setting the Context:**

Ephesians 6:1-4

Our ability to apply God's Word to our relationships with our family demonstrates how much \_\_\_\_\_ God's Spirit has over our lives.

### **Family Life:**

#### **The Child's Role**

It is absolutely \_\_\_\_\_ for children to obey their parents.

Obedience is the primary way that children \_\_\_\_\_ their parents.

#### **The Parent's Role**

Avoid provoking your child to unnecessary \_\_\_\_\_

#### How to Make Your Child Angry

1. Be \_\_\_\_\_
2. Be Uncaring & \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_ them
4. Don't Keep Your \_\_\_\_\_
5. Use Punitive \_\_\_\_\_
6. Be a \_\_\_\_\_
7. Never \_\_\_\_\_
8. Use Unbalanced \_\_\_\_\_
9. Make Them \_\_\_\_\_ Your Approval & Acceptance
10. Be Overly \_\_\_\_\_

#### Discipline & Instruction of the Lord

1. Read God's \_\_\_\_\_ with Them
2. Be a Good \_\_\_\_\_
3. Use Teachable \_\_\_\_\_

Keep in mind that Christian parenting is all about Making Disciples of Jesus Christ.