

# PAARENTING BY THE BOOK

## PRINCIPLES OF BIBLICAL OBEDIENCE

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.”

Ephesians 6:1-3

1. **PRAYER FOR OUR CHILDREN:** “LORD GOD, MY PRAYER IS THAT (CHILD’S NAME) WILL BE **KNOWN** FOR HIS/HER **EXTRADORDINARY DEVOTION TO YOU.**”
2. **INTRODUCTION:**
  - A. “CHILDREN MUST BE **TAUGHT TO OBEY**. THEY DO **NOT** COME **PRESET TO OBEY**... THEY COME **PRESET TO DISOBEY**. **THEREFORE, OBEDIENCE MUST BE TAUGHT.**” - DR. STEPHEN LAWSON
  - B. “THE **CHALLENGE OF TEACHING CHILDREN TO OBEY FROM THE HEART IS TO GIVE THEM A NEW HEART.**” - DR. STEPHEN LAWSON
  - C. **ALL PARENTS WANT THEIR CHILDREN TO OBEY... AND OFTEN!**
    1. **YET... SOMETIMES IN OUR QUEST FOR OBEDIENCE WE WILL SETTLE FOR COMPLIANCE.**
    2. **NOTE... THEY ARE NOT THE SAME.**
      - a. **HOWEVER, THEY CAN LOOK LIKE THE SAME THING.**
  - D. **THE FIRST ISSUE TO DISCUSS IS, “WHAT ARE THE DIFFERENCES BETWEEN OBEDIENCE AND COMPLIANCE?”.**
3. **DISCUSSION: THE DIFFERENCES BETWEEN OBEDIENCE AND COMPLIANCE.**
  - A. **COMPLIANCE AND OBEDIENCE ARE EASILY CONFUSED... IN PART BECAUSE THEY LOOK LIKE THE SAME THING:**
    1. **WE MAY COMPLY WITH RULES TO AVOID PUNISHMENT.**
    2. **WE MIGHT CHOOSE TO BE AN OBEDIENT PATIENT BY TAKING THE MEDICATIONS AND MAKING CHANGES AS PRESCRIBED BY OUR PHYSICIAN.**

## PAENTING BY THE BOOK

### PRINCIPLES OF BIBLICAL OBEDIENCE

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.”

Ephesians 6:1-3

#### 3. SOME PEOPLE MAY SEE BOTH EXAMPLES AS OBEDIENCE.

a. BUT... OBEDIENCE INCLUDES THE WILLFUL SUBMISSION TO AN AUTHORITY.

1) WE CAN BE COMPLIANT FOR REASONS OTHER THAN A DESIRE TO WILLINGLY SUBMIT TO AN AUTHORITY.

i. EXAMPLES: FEAR AND REWARD

4. COMPLIANCE = HAVE TO

a. OBEDIENCE = WANT TO

5. COMPLIANCE = OUTSIDE IN = COMPULSION

a. OBEDIENCE = INSIDE OUT = DESIRE

6. COMPLIANCE = OFTEN OUT OF FEAR

a. OBEDIENCE = MOST OFTEN OUT OF LOVE AND DEVOTION.

7. COMPLIANCE = FORCED MODIFICATION

a. OBEDIENCE = HEART ORIENTATION

#### 4. THREE IMPORTANT BIBLICAL REASONS WHY PARENTS MUST INSIST THAT THEIR CHILDREN OBEY THEM...

Ephesians 6:1-3 (NASB) 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 BE WELL WITH YOU, AND THAT YOU MAY LIVE LONG ON THE EARTH.

A. CHILDREN NEED TO OBEY THEIR PARENTS BECAUSE CREATION DECLARES IT.... IT IS RIGHT.

1. “Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right”

## PAENTING BY THE BOOK

### PRINCIPLES OF BIBLICAL OBEDIENCE

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.”

Ephesians 6:1-3

2. THERE ARE **CERTAIN TRUTHS** WE NEED TO KNOW SIMPLY BECAUSE WE ARE **HUMAN...** BECAUSE WE ARE **CREATED IN GOD'S IMAGE.**

a. ONE OF THOSE TRUTHS IS **THAT CHILDREN ARE TO OBEY THEIR PARENTS** BECAUSE THAT IS **HOW GOD INTENDS IT TO WORK.**

B. **CHILDREN NEED TO OBEY THEIR PARENTS BECAUSE GOD'S WORD COMMANDS IT.... IT IS RIGHT.**

1. “... HONOR YOUR FATHER AND MOTHER (which is the first **commandment** with a promise),

2. **OBEDIENCE TO PARENTS IS A REQUIREMENT OF GOD'S LAW.**

3. **FYI: THIS COMMANDMENT IS A BRIDGE BETWEEN THE FIRST FOUR (WHICH REFLECT OUR RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD), AND THE FINAL FIVE (WHICH REFLECT OUR RELATIONSHIP WITH OTHERS).**

4. MOST SCHOLARS AGREE THAT GOD PLACED THIS COMMANDMENT HERE BECAUSE OF THE **UNIQUE ROLE PARENTS PLAY... A ROLE IN WHICH PARENTS REPRESENT GOD TO OUR CHILDREN.**

5. **TO HONOR AND OBEY PARENTS IS TO HONOR AND OBEY GOD!**

a. THOSE WHO GIVE **HONOR AND OBEDIENCE TO THEIR PARENTS** OPEN THEMSELVES TO **SPECIAL BLESSINGS.**

C. **CHILDREN NEED TO OBEY THEIR PARENTS BECAUSE THE GOSPEL DEMANDS IT... “IN THE LORD”.**

1. “Children, obey your parents **in the Lord**”

2. **ONE OF THE VERY FIRST EVIDENCES OF A CHILD'S CONVERSION IS OBEDIENCE TO MOM AND DAD.**

# PAENTING BY THE BOOK

## PRINCIPLES OF BIBLICAL OBEDIENCE

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.”

Ephesians 6:1-3

### 5. **DISCUSS: HOW OBEDIENCE vs COMPLIANCE PLAY OUT FOR OUR CHILDREN AT DIFFERENT AGES AND STAGES.**

#### A. **CHILDREN AT EARLY AGES**

1. **COMPLIANCE** – BECAUSE THEY HAVE **NOT DEVELOPED MENTALLY TO AN UNDERSTANDING OF OBEDIENCE FROM DESIRE.**

a. **SELF** IS WHAT THEY UNDERSTAND.

b. AT THIS AGE **PARENTS MUST ESTABLISH BOUNDARIES.**

c. **EXAMPLES:**

1) HOT STOVE, ETC.

2) STORYTIME **OBEDIENCE: MATTHEW AND COPPERHEAD SNAKE**

#### B. **CHILDREN AT MIDDLE AGES**

1. A TIME FOR **PARENTS TO BEGIN WORKING ON OBEDIENCE.**

a. “I CAN **TRUST** MY **PARENTS DECISIONS** BECAUSE THEY HAVE MY BEST INTERESTS IN MIND”.

2. MIDDLE AGES ARE A TIME TO **BEGIN** STOPPING “BECAUSE I SAID SO!” AND “DO AS I SAY, NOT AS I DO!”.

3. MIDDLE AGES ARE A TIME TO **BEGIN** TO BUILD A **RELATIONSHIP** WITH CHILDREN **BASED ON TRUST.**

4. AND, MIDDLE AGES ARE A TIME TO **BEGIN** BUILDING A **RELATIONSHIP** WITH **JESUS CHRIST.**

a. SO WHEN OUR CHILDREN LEAVE HOME THEY WILL BE **OBEDIENT TO JESUS CHRIST** AND HIS **WORD.**

## PARENTING BY THE BOOK

### PRINCIPLES OF BIBLICAL OBEDIENCE

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.”

Ephesians 6:1-3

- 1) AND **NOT MAKE DECISIONS BASED ON THE WORLD, THE FLESH, AND THE DEVIL.**

#### C. CHILDREN AT OLDER AGES

1. AT THIS STAGE PARENTS SHOULD WORK ON **OBEDIENCE BECOMING RELATIONAL.**
  - a. “I NEED YOU TO **TRUST ME** AND BE **OBEDIENT** IN THIS AREA.”
2. **IF THERE IS NOT A RELATIONSHIP OF TRUST BETWEEN PARENT AND CHILD REGARDING OBEDIENCE, IT WILL BE DIFFICULT FOR CHILDREN TO TRANSFER THEIR OBEDIENCE TO JESUS WHEN THEY ARE NO LONGER UNDER THEIR PARENTS AUTHORITY.**

#### D. NOTE:

1. “THE **OBLIGATION TO OBEY** IS NOT ONLY ON THE SIDE OF THE **CHILD**, WHO **MUST OBEY**... BUT ALSO ON THE SIDE OF THE **PARENT**, WHO **MUST REINFORCE THE OBEDIENCE**”. – JAMES BOICE
2. “THE **PARENT STANDS AS GOD IN RELATIONSHIP TO THE CHILD. TO ALLOW THE CHILD TO DEFY AND DISOBEY THEIR PARENT IS TO TEACH THE CHILD TO DEFY AND DISOBEY GOD** (WITH ALL THE OBVIOUS CONSEQUENCES).” – TIM CHALLIES
3. “IF WE **LOVE OUR CHILDREN TOO MUCH TO REQUIRE THEM TO DO WHAT IS RIGHT**, THEN WE HAVE **NOT REALLY LOVED THEM ENOUGH.**” - BRYAN CHAPPELL
4. “CHILDREN MUST BE **TAUGHT TO OBEY**. THEY DO **NOT** COME **PRESET TO OBEY**... THEY COME **PRESET TO DISOBEY**. THEREFORE, **OBEDIENCE MUST BE TAUGHT.**” - DR. STEPHEN LAWSON
5. “THE **CHALLENGE OF TEACHING CHILDREN TO OBEY FROM THE HEART IS TO GIVE THEM A NEW HEART.**” - DR. STEPHEN LAWSON