

“Family Life in the Name of Christ”
Colossians 3:20-21

I. Children are to obey their parents in the Name of the Lord. (v. 20)

- A. Kids are to obey their parents in all things (except if asked to sin).
- B. Jesus is pleased when children obey their parents.
 - 1. Both parents represent the authority Jesus has over their children.
 - 2. When children obey their parents, they are truly obeying the Lord.
- C. The Lord promises a generally good life to those who honor their father and mother.

Ephesians 6:1–3 - ¹ Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. ² Honor your father and mother (which is the first commandment with a promise), ³ so that it may be well with you, and that you may live long on the earth.

II. Parents, fathers especially, are to rear their children the Name of the Lord. (v. 21)

- A. Here Paul’s address does narrow from “parents” to “fathers”.
- B. That was likely intentional on Paul’s part.
 - 1. On the whole, mothers are less given to exasperating their kids.
 - 2. It’s usually fathers who do the bulk of discouraging in the home.
- C. What are fathers to do instead of exasperating their children?

Ephesians 6:4 - Fathers, do not provoke your children to anger, but bring them up in the discipline and instruction of the Lord.

- D. Fathers who instruct and discipline in the name of the Lord strive to have a home that reflects Christ’s approach to us:

Matthew 11:28–30 - ²⁸ “Come to Me, all who are weary and heavy-laden, and I will give you rest. ²⁹ “Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. ³⁰ “For My yoke is easy and My burden is light.”