

Thursday

Mom and Dad, read Deuteronomy 6:5-9 and answer the following questions:

- How are you as parents purposefully learning the Word of God and allowing it to be upon your hearts?
- What is your current plan to teach your children about the Lord? If you don't have one, what steps do you think you need to take in order to lead your children spiritually and how can you communicate with them your desire to begin to fulfill this role? Dads, this starts with you. Read Eph 6:4.
- How are you currently weaving God's Word into the everyday life of your family? And if you could post one verse on a plaque in your home, which one would it be?

Friday

Mom and children: Think of the ways in which Dad leads your family and let him know how you appreciate him.

Talk with your kids about who their heavenly Father is and what He is like, and then take some time to pray and tell Him how you appreciate him.



In Your Family

Ephesians 6:1-4

Ephesians 6:1-4 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 — ³that it may go well with you and that you may enjoy long life on the earth." ⁴Fathers, do not exasperate your children; instead, bring them up in the training and instruction of the Lord.

SPIRIT-FILLED FAMILY LIFE

1. Children Obey and _____ Their Parents

Ephesians 6:1 Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. ²"Honor your father and mother..."

2. Parents Create a Climate of _____

Ephesians 6:4 Fathers, do not exasperate your children ...

How to exasperate your children...

Smothering overprotection	Vicariously living through them
Spoiling with too much freedom	Making them feel unwanted
Playing favorites	Excessive discipline
Pressuring them to achieve	Inconsistent discipline
Being overly critical	Failing to adapt your parenting style to their current stage of development
Reversing roles	Levying lots of rules without investing in the relationship
Expressing conditional love	

3. Parents Get Intentional About _____

Ephesians 6:4 Instead, bring them up in the training and instruction of the Lord.

TOOLS OF THE TRADE

Tool #1 - Discipline That _____ "training"

Tool #2 - Discussion That _____ "instruction"

Tool #3 - Daily Life That _____

Family Discussion Guide

Decoder:

K2P=Kids to parents

P2K=Parents to kids

Monday

K2P: Mom and Dad, was there a time when you disobeyed your parents and they did not find out? What were the consequences and looking back, how was God at work in your life at that time?

K2P: Mom and Dad, is there an area where I could obey you more and how will this affect my life now and in the long run?

Tuesday

As a family, read Romans 13:1,2 and discuss the consequences of disobeying authorities (parents, teachers, coaches, etc...)

Webster defines honor as "showing respect" to "one whose worth brings respect." As Christians, our worth is found in Christ and whom He has created us to be. God has put parents in authority over their children and there is great worth attached to that position. So:

- Children, how can you show more honor and respect to your parents (at home and in public)?
- Parents, what would you like to see from your children as it relates to honoring and respecting you?

Wednesday

Dads (and moms), at this point in your relationship with your children, what do you think God would like to see changed in how YOU relate to them?

P2K Based on Eph 6:4: Are there certain things I do that exasperate or make you angry? What could I do to improve our relationship?

Brother's Keeper Thought: If you are a parent, share with a close friend, your small group, or spiritual partner your most pressing struggle in parenting. Did the Lord give you any insight from Ephesians 6 that is helpful to you?

If you are a student, how are you doing these days at honoring and obeying your parents? Do you feel exasperated? Why? What can you do about it?

Bible Reading Plan

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sunday: Jeremiah 39 | <input type="checkbox"/> Monday: Jeremiah 40 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Tuesday: Jeremiah 41 | <input type="checkbox"/> Wednesday: Jeremiah 42 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Thursday: Jeremiah 43 | <input type="checkbox"/> Friday: Jeremiah 44 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Saturday: Jeremiah 45 | <input type="checkbox"/> Sunday: Jeremiah 46 |

Steve Benninger, Lead Pastor
New Life Church Gahanna/June 20 & 21, 2009