

Sermon Outline

CHILDREN AND PARENTS, SLAVES AND MASTERS ... | Geoff Lin

Bible reading: Ephesians 6:1-9

Paul's Letter to the Ephesians

The God who is rich in mercy
(Chs 1-3)

The God who prepared good works in
advance for us to do (Chs 4-6)

Ephesians 4:1 As a prisoner for the Lord, then, I urge you to live a life worthy of the calling you have received.

- unity (4:2-16)
- purity (4:17-5:20)
- relationships (5:21-6:9)
 - wives and husbands (5:22-33)
 - children and parents (6:1-4)
 - slaves and masters (6:5-9)

Ephesians 5:21 Submit to one another out of reverence for Christ.

1. Children (verses 1-3)

i. **The instruction:** *Children, obey your parents in the Lord ...*

ii. **The matter of motive**

Ethical motivation #1: because _____

Ethical motivation #2: because _____

Deuteronomy 5:16 Honour your father and your mother, as the LORD your God has commanded you, so that you may live long and that it may go well with you in the land the LORD your God is giving you.

Q1. Does "obey" mean "total obedience"?

Q2. How should children disobey their parents?

2. Fathers (parents) (verse 4)

i. **The instruction:** *Fathers, do not exasperate your children ...*

ii. **The matter of motive**

Ethical motivation #3: because _____

Recommended Reading: Harriet Connor, *Big Picture Parents*
[<https://musingsinadelade.blogspot.com/p/parenting-books.html>]

Q. Whose children are we talking about?

Psalms 71:17 Since my youth, God, you have taught me, and to this day I declare your marvelous deeds. ¹⁸ Even when I am old and gray, do not forsake me, my God, till I declare your power to the next generation, your mighty acts to all who are to come.

3. Slaves (and masters) (verses 5-9)

i. **The instruction:** *slaves, obey your earthly masters ...*

ii. **The matter of motive**

Ethical motivation #4: because _____

For discussion: Which ethical motivation means the most to you? When? Why?