

Children and Parents, Slaves and Masters.

Ephesians 6:1-9



Children as Masters, Parents as Slaves.

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- Be imitators of God [5:1]
- Be filled with the Holy Spirit, [5:18]
 - Speaking to one another with psalms, hymns and spiritual songs
 - Singing in your heart to the Lord
 - Giving thanks to God in everything
 - Submitting to one another out of **reverence for Christ** [5:21]
 - Wives, submit to your husbands as **to the Lord** [5:22]
 - Husbands, love your wives, just **as Christ loved the church**
 - Children obey your parents **in the Lord**
 - Fathers, bring up your children **in the training and instruction of the Lord**
 - Slaves, obey your earthly masters just **as you would obey Christ**
 - Masters treat your slaves right because **you also have a Master in heaven** [6:9]



The Christian family is a place where members seek to imitate God's love, walk in holiness in the Spirit and submit to the Lordship of Jesus Christ in everything they do.



The Christian in a family seeks to imitate God's love, walk in holiness in the Spirit and submit to the Lordship of Jesus Christ in everything he/she does.



The Christian, in every circumstance, seeks to imitate God's love, walk in holiness in the Spirit and submit to the Lordship of Jesus Christ in everything he/she does.



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 “that it may go well with you and that you may enjoy long life on the earth.”

4 Fathers, do not exasperate your children; instead, bring them up in the training and instruction of the Lord.

[Eph 6:1-4]



Four Reasons to Obey Parents

1. It is right

2. It is commanded



3. It brings blessings

4. It pleases the Lord

“Children, obey your parents in everything, for this pleases the Lord” Col 3:20



Four Instructions for Bringing Up Children

1. Do not exasperate them

“Fathers, do not embitter your children, or they will become discouraged.” Col 3:21

2. Nurture / Nourish them

3. Discipline / Train them

4. Instruct / Admonish them



God has charged parents with the primary responsibility for bringing children up in the training and instruction of the Lord.



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5 Slaves, obey your earthly masters with respect and fear, and with sincerity of heart, just as you would obey Christ.

6 Obey them not only to win their favor when their eye is on you, but like slaves of Christ, doing the will of God from your heart.

7 Serve wholeheartedly, as if you were serving the Lord, not men,

8 because you know that the Lord will reward everyone for whatever good he does, whether he is slave or free.

9 And masters, treat your slaves in the same way. Do not threaten them, since you know that he who is both their Master and yours is in heaven, and there is no favoritism with him.

[Eph 6:5-9]



22 Slaves, obey your earthly masters in everything; and do it, not only when their eye is on you and to win their favor, but with sincerity of heart and reverence for the Lord.

23 Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for men,

24 Since you know that you will receive an inheritance from the Lord as a reward. It is the Lord Christ you are serving.

25 Anyone who does wrong will be repaid for his wrong, and there is no favoritism.

1 Masters, provide your slaves with what is right and fair, because you know that you also have a Master in heaven.

[Col 3:22 – 4:1]



18 Slaves, submit yourselves to your masters with all respect, not only to those who are good and considerate, but also to those who are harsh.

19 For it is commendable if a man bears up under the pain of unjust suffering because he is conscious of God.

20 But how is it to your credit if you receive a beating for doing wrong and endure it? But if you suffer for doing good and you endure it, this is commendable before God.

21 To this you were called, because Christ suffered for you, leaving you an example, that you should follow in his steps.

[1 Pet 2:18-21]



Biblical Principles for Christian Slaves

1. Obey and serve our earthly masters / employers as though we are obeying and serving Christ
2. God desires for us to do a good job at our work
3. Avoid eye-service
4. We will be rewarded by the Lord for our good work.



Biblical Principles for Christian Masters

1. Treat your employees rightly and fairly
2. Do not threaten your employees
3. Submit to the Lordship of Christ
4. Do not show favoritism



The Christian, in every circumstance, seeks to imitate God's love, walk in holiness in the Spirit and submit to the Lordship of Jesus Christ in everything he/she does.

