

Bible Homes

Part IV

Children in the Home

Introduction:

There are many activities that occur in the home such as eating, sleeping, entertainment, financial decisions, cleaning inside and outdoors that occupy our time. There are too activities that occur in the home that the word of God addresses such as the husband wife relationship, parent child relationship, instruction, and nurturing. Two primary Bible functions that occur in the home are giving instructions and exercising mutual love. When these two functions have as their founding principle of action the Word of God then all other side functions will be taken care of with sound judgment. The husband is to take the lead in this process. The wife is in subjection to her husband and helps him achieve the desired results of bringing God glory. Children are to be considered as well. The child does not give instruction yet he learns the meaning of giving and receiving instructions when taught right in the home. The child learns what true Bible love is when he or she experiences it in the home as well. This lesson shall examine the children's function and role in the home.

I. What part do Children play in achieving the functions of the home?

- A. The child is commanded to “honor” their parents (cf. Ex. 20:12; Deut. 5:16; Matt. 15:4; Eph. 6:2).
- B. The word “honor” (*timao*) = “to pay honor to, hold in honor, revere, reverence... value, prize... to estimate, value or assess at a certain price” (LS 807). The American Heritage Dictionary defines honor as “special esteem or respect; reverence” (620).
- C. The child has a learning place in the home:
 - a. He or she learns spiritual lessons from mom and dad as together they study God's Word (i.e., how to honor mom and dad [cf. Prov. 1:8-9; 4:1-4; 6:20-21; 23:22]).
 - b. He learns a work ethic from mom and dad by being given chores such as cleaning room, house, and doing yard work.
 - c. The child learns how to listen as they see the parents carefully listening to their concerns (cf. Phil. 4:9; we all learn by example). Not only does the child learn listening skills but the learn what it means to obey the parents commands (cf. Eph. 6:1; Col. 3:20).
 - d. The child learns to love and reciprocate love as they watch and experience their parents love.

II. Problems with unruly children:

- A. Though each man will give an account for what he does or does not do while on the earth (cf. Rom. 2:6), the parents play a huge part in shaping the future of children (cf. Prov. 22:6).
- B. Children who experience no restraint in the home have little or no respect for authority in general let alone mom and dad (cf. Prov. 20:20; 28:24; 30:11, 17).

Conclusion:

Children are a joy in the home. Parents are responsible for their instruction in spiritual and secular matters as well as teaching them love and how to give God glory in their every day living.