

Sermon Questions for Life Groups

Family Life 101 - Eph. 6:1-4

Pastor John Mahaffey

Sunday, June 18, 2017

*These questions are generated by several authors for Life Group discussions
or family or personal devotions*

In this passage Paul continues to describe how we are called to live in our domestic relationships. He continues to illustrate the general principle of submission that he mentioned in 5:21.

1. Pastor John pointed out that when Paul's letter to the Ephesians was read publicly, Paul assumed that children would be present; from this passage please share realistic and practical ways in which the whole church can be involved in discipling children? Will you be participating in discipling children and youth, as requested by Pastor Jakob?
2. What are the two reasons Paul gives as to why a child should obey and honour his/her parents?
3. What are the two promises that accompany the commands to obey and honour our parents?
4. How are adult children to apply this command at the various stages of their parent's lives? What does obedience and honouring look like when your parents are in their senior years?
5. Why do you think Paul specifically instructs fathers and not mothers in verse 4 to not exasperate their children? What does this imply about the father's role in the home?

6. What are some ways a parent might provoke his or her children to anger? How could these same situations be handled better?

7. Note that this short paragraph refers to the Lord two times. Verse 1 says “in the Lord” and verse 4 says “of the Lord.” What does this imply about healthy parent-child relationships?

8. In David Tripp’s Parenting: 14 Gospel Principles That can Radically Change Your Family, it is written that “owner” parents tend to look to get their identity, meaning, purpose and inner sense of well being from their children, whereas “ambassador” parents approach parenting as representatives and come to it with a deep sense of identity and are motivated by meaning and purpose. Discuss the differences between these two philosophies and what perspective do you parent under?

9. 3. Read Deuteronomy 11:18-21 and compare the guidance provided in this passage to the message of Eph 6:1-4. Identify the three methods of teaching our children, and two attitudes from which this teaching must take place.

10. Pastor John mentioned the children’s storybook author Sally Lloyd Jones who points the stories in the Bible to Jesus. Based on this premise, how do the following Old Testament stories/references point to Jesus:
 - a. The seed of the woman in Genesis 3:15
 - b. In Exodus, escaping from Egypt and the Passover Lamb
 - c. In Leviticus, the high priests making sacrifices for the people.
 - d. In Judges, the leaders who delivered God’s people
 - e. King David, the anointed one . . .
 - f. Book of Esther . . .

11. Pastor John emphasized the role of prayer in raising children. Share examples of how you have employed prayer in your child's training and instruction. How have you developed your child's prayer abilities?