

# Series: A Look At Authority

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Message:  
"Parents Just Don't Understand"

May 11<sup>th</sup>, 2008

# God's Instructions For Parents



## ■ Instruction #1

***1) Be Selfless In Your Love  
For Your Children***

## ***Psalm 127: 3-5***

*Don't you see that children are God's best gift? The fruit of the womb his generous legacy? Like a warrior's fistful of arrows are the children of a vigorous youth. Oh, how blessed are you parents, with your quivers full of children! Your enemies don't stand a chance against you; you'll sweep them right off your doorstep.*

*(The Message)*

## ***Ephesians 5: 1-2***

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*Be imitators of God, therefore, as dearly loved children and live a life of love, just as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us as a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.*

# God's Instructions For Parents

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## ■ Instruction #2

***2) Be Intentional About  
Spiritual Training***

# ***Deuteronomy 6: 4-6***

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*Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one. Love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength. These commandments that I give you today are to be upon your hearts.*

# ***Deuteronomy 6: 7-9***

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*Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up. Tie them as symbols on your hands and bind them on your foreheads. Write them on the doorframes of your houses and on your gates.*

# ***Ephesians 6:4***

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*Fathers [Parents] do not provoke your children to anger but bring them up in the discipline and instruction of the Lord.  
(NASB)*

# God's Instructions For Parents



## ■ Instruction #3

### ***3) Practice Consistent Biblical Discipline***

# ***Ephesians 6:4***

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*Fathers [Parents] do not provoke your children to anger but bring them up in the discipline and instruction of the Lord.  
(NASB)*

## ■ **Proverbs 13:24**

He who spares the rod hates his son, but he who loves him is careful to discipline him.

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## ■ **Proverbs 19:18**

Discipline your son, for in that there is hope; do not be a willing party to his death.

## ■ **Proverbs 22:15**

Folly is bound up in the heart of the child, but the rod of discipline will drive it far from him.

## ■ **Proverbs 23:12-14**

Apply your heart to instruction and your ears to words of knowledge. Do not withhold discipline from a child; if you punish him with the rod he will not die. Punish him with the rod and save his soul from death.

# God's Instructions For Parents

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## ■ Instruction #4

***4) Do Not Provoke  
Your Children***

# ***Ephesians 6:4***

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*Fathers [Parents] do not provoke your children to anger but bring them up in the discipline and instruction of the Lord.  
(NASB)*

# ***Colossians 3:21***

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*Fathers [Parents] do not embitter your children, or they will become discouraged.*

*(NASB)*

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- **Provoke** – A repeated ongoing pattern of treatment that gradually builds up a deep-seated anger & resentment that boils over in outward hostility.

# 7 Ways We Provoke Our Children

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- 1) Overprotection
- 2) Favoritism
- 3) Unreasonable Expectations
- 4) Discouragement
- 5) Using Love As A Tool of Reward
- 6) Anger Masked As Discipline
- 7) Abuse – Physical/Verbal

# God's Instructions For Children

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## ■ Instruction #1

***1) Know that God himself  
ordained your  
parent/parents as your  
authority***

# God's Instructions For Children

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## ■ Instruction #2

***2) Obey Your  
Parent/Parents***

# ***Ephesians 6:1***

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*Children, obey your parents in the Lord,  
for this is right.*

# ***Colossians 3:20***

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*Children, obey your parents in everything, for this pleases the Lord.*

# God's Instructions For Children

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## ■ Instruction #3

***3) Honor Your  
Parent/Parents***

# ***Ephesians 6:2***

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*“Honor your father and mother”—which  
is the first commandment with a  
promise.*

# God's Instructions For Children

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## ■ Instruction #4

***4) Know that honoring & obeying your parent/parents pleases the Lord.***

# ***Ephesians 6:1***

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*Children, obey your parents in the Lord,  
for this is right.*

# God's Instructions For Children

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## ■ Instruction #5

***5) Know The Conditional Promise.***

## ***Ephesians 6:2-3***

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*Honor your father and mother"—which is the first commandment with a promise— "that it may go well with you and that you may enjoy long life on the earth."*

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