

Promoting an Environment of Grace and Love at Home!

(Getting along with your parents in the Lord!)

- **“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 “so that it may go well with you and that you may enjoy long life on the earth.” (Ephesians 6:1-3)**
- **⁴ Fathers, do not exasperate your children; instead, bring them up in the training and instruction of the Lord. (Ephesians 6:4)**
- **Q: How can you honor your father and mother, and obey your parents in the Lord?**

I) A Few Examples of Jesus with His Earthly Parent!

- A) “On the third day a wedding took place at Cana in Galilee. Jesus’ mother was there,² and Jesus and his disciples had also been invited to the wedding.³ When the wine was gone, Jesus’ mother said to him, “They have no more wine.”⁴ “Woman, why do you involve me?” Jesus replied. “My hour has not yet come.”⁵ His mother said to the servants, “Do whatever he tells you.”⁶ Nearby stood six stone water jars, the kind used by the Jews for ceremonial washing, each holding from twenty to thirty gallons.⁷ Jesus said to the servants, “Fill the jars with water”; so they filled them to the brim.⁸ Then he told them, “Now draw some out and take it to the master of the banquet.” They did so,⁹ and the master of the banquet tasted the water that had been turned into wine. He did not realize where it had come from, though the servants who had drawn the water knew. Then he called the bridegroom aside¹⁰ and said, “Everyone brings out the choice wine first and then the cheaper wine after the guests have had too much to drink; but you have saved the best till now.” (John 2:1-10)

B) “After three days they found him in the temple courts, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. ⁴⁷ Everyone who heard him was amazed at his understanding and his answers. ⁴⁸ When his parents saw him, they were astonished. His mother said to him, “Son, why have you treated us like this? Your father and I have been anxiously searching for you.” ⁴⁹ “Why were you searching for me?” he asked. “Didn’t you know I had to be in my Father’s house?”
(Luke 2:46-49)

II) Some Relationship Lessons from Jesus and His Mother in (John 2:1-10)?

A) What was Jesus willing to be and do for His mother?

- .
- .
- .

B) What was Mary's confidence toward Jesus?

- .
- .

C) What was the result of their divine relationship?

- .
- .
- .

II) Some Relationship Lessons from Jesus and His Mother in (John 2:1-10)?

A) What was Jesus willing to be and do for His mother?

- He was available, with His disciples, to attend a family (a family friend's) wedding!
- He was willing to sympathetically serve her and meet her need even though it was inconvenient and not His time for public ministry!
- He then went forward with action to provide for her need!

B) What was Mary's confidence toward Jesus?

- She felt free to come to Jesus with her needs and was sure that He will help!
- She did not have any doubt that Jesus would help even though it was a difficult request!

C) What was the result of their divine relationship?

- His mother's desperate and difficult request was met!
- The wedding guests were satisfied with the best tasting wine in all history!
- He revealed His glory and the disciples believed in Him! Also, the servants...

III) Some Wisdom for the Road alongside Biblical Principles!

- 1) **Be willing to grow up and be mature!** Being mature means being selfless to love, to do what is best for others, and to consider others more important than yourself. Don't be a sour, unripe fruit, but a sweet ripe one! (Philippians 2:3-4)
- 2) **Trust that God is just! and that He sees!** He will vindicate you from any false accusations, mistrust and injustice done to you. (Psalm 37:3-7)
- 3) **Learn to look at others with “one eye closed!”** 😊 We are all broken vessels needing God's healing power and grace. (1 Peter 4:8)
- 4) **Nurture an environment of grace, love, and edification!** Do and say only that which will build others up. Be generous with words of appreciation and be grateful for all that they have done. (Ephesians 4:29-31)
- 5) **Acknowledge everyone who lives with you at home!** Say “I'm home!” when you come and say “I'm going!” when you leave. Even when you pass by say “hey Mom/Dad!”, “hey sis/bro!” (Philippians 2:1; 1 Peter 5:14)

- 6) **Be willing to change your style/bad habits rather than expecting others to change!** Be all things to all people. “It’s hard to teach an old dog new tricks!” (1 Corinthians 9:22-23)
- 7) **When asked to do chores, “go the extra mile!”** Don’t be a kid, be responsible and helpful; do your part. Also, you have a better chance being heard when you are responsible and mature. (Matthew 5:41)
- 8) **Be ready to show proper honor and respect to those who are older!** Especially your parents, but anyone who is older. (Ephesians 6:1-2)
- 9) **Learn to communicate humbly, to receive their feedback and counsel without defensiveness!** Especially before making any major decisions. (Proverbs 11:14)
- 10) **Ask your parents for permission, be willing to submit to their wishes in the Lord, in spite of your preferences!** Trust that God is sovereign, believe that He can use your parents to direct your path. (1 Peter 5:5-6)

11) **Inform your parents about anything that they should know as your parents!** Both good news as well as bad news. They have loved you, raised you, they have the right to know what concerns them as your parents.
(Galatians 6:6)

12) **When can you make your own decision over your parents wishes?** If you have been walking with God, you have a personal relationship with Jesus, and the Lord speaks to you directly. God is the ultimate authority, and you must be submitted to His voice over all other delegated authorities.
“Children, obey your parents **in the Lord**, for this is right.” (Ephesians 6:1)

IV) Some more thoughts for the road! (for small group time)

- 1) **What was something helpful food for thought for you?**
- 2) **Any other practical ideas that helped your relationship with your parents?**
- 3) **What 2-3 things do you want to work on in your relationship with your parents? Who will you ask to keep you accountable?**