

**SIMPLE THOUGHTS
ON THE HOME**

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Ephesians 5:22-6:4

Wives - v. 22-24

- Wives **submit** → The term of terror and fear to the lady who:
 - Does not understand it
 - Who has been misinformed about it and abused by it
 - Has no real desire to do as God designs.

- **Ideas about this term:**
 - Term of function not quality or essence.
 - Term of order - home to be structured
 - Get under his authority and follow his leadership.
 - As to God - strong emphasis. -v. 22
 - Wife is to be led by her head - just as Christ leads the church.
 - God designed the order - not man.
 - Sin destroyed the order - Genesis 3:16
 - Wife is to follow the church=s model
 - In everything -v.24

- These ideas were not currently held.

- These are not reminders but a radically new way to look at the home.

- Wives **respect** → wife is to show honor and respect v. 33.

Husbands - v. 25-32

- Husbands **love**

- Term of giving, sacrifice, commitment.
 - Term is a **verb** (Present Imperative) - what to do and how to act, not how to feel.
 - Love is to be the 1 Corinthians 13 kind.
 - Term of Christlikeness – “even as Christ love His bride” - He gave.
 - He gave in every respect of the word.
 - He lived and died for the bride. -v.25
 - What did he do for His Bride? - helped purify/ sanctify her . . . wash her with the Word. - v.26
 - The husband is to take the responsibility to help his bride stand before Christ one day without shame. -v. 27
- v. 28 - Take care of her with the same effort you care for your own body.
- v. 29 - You feed it, care for it . . . make sure it is attended to with proper care
→ just like the Lord cares for His bride.
- Makes sure all her needs are met - First.
- v. 30 - There is an intimate relationship.
- v. 31 - There is a leaving and a joining; to leave parents → join to wife.
- New family, under a new head, new authority.
 - This is not just New Testament . . . it is anchored in Old Testament theology, Creation theology.
- Genesis 2:24,25: Paul agrees with God.

This is the formation of the family unit.

Husband leaves, wife leaves - they cleave together.

Spouse - more important than Children
more important than job
more important than friends
more important than parents.

v. 33 - Paul concludes this section with a repetition of what he has already said.

- This is not reminding . . . it is radical.

Children - vs. 6:1-3

- Kids **obey** - Get under your parent's authority and do as they tell you.
 - There is an issue of authority.
 - One of the most important things a child can learn early is he is an individual under authority.
 - * Obedience is a child's response to his/her parent=s authority without excuse, without challenge and without delay.
 - * When you instruct your child to do something; the only godly response is immediate obedience without excuse or challenge.
 - * If your child is allowed to respond if and when they feel like it, 1) you as a parent sin against God as your authority Who instructs you and 2) you train your child to respond to authority only when they want to, 3) and you begin to lay the foundation for a home that is child-centered rather than Christ-centered.
 - * In a child-centered home - everyone and everything exists for the child's happiness.

* The child learns early on how to manipulate people to get his way . . . and you as a parent taught him how.

* The child learns to use people rather than serve people - like Christ. Mark 10:45

v. 6:1 - Paul says this (obedience) is right.

• Kids **honor** –

- The honor, respect is to be equally demonstrated to both dad and mom.

Is there ever a time not to respect? → NO!

* If kids aren't trained properly to obey both, honor both, they soon learn how to play one parent against the other.

* Dad, you are responsible, as the head of the house, to make sure your children respect and obey your wife.

★ Remember → These are not suggestions but commands. → Dad and Mom you are responsible to teach them.

Parents - It's clear that 6:4 refers to both Dad and Mom because of v. 1-2.

This doesn't mean – “don't oppose them, deny their wishes, or say no”: you can't make their selfish anger your measuring stick for how you parent them. If you do, every time they seem upset, you'll second-guess yourself, and the child will soon be in charge.

6:4 - Don't bring up your child to a wrathful or angry, selfish lifestyle!!

- Don't teach them by example or failure to discipline them that is OK to react impulsively every time they don't get their way.

- Don't show them that when people don't make them happy that it's OK to be ugly to them, say hurtful words or be angry.
- Don't provoke them to this kind of lifestyle.

Bring them up. - command

- Verb tense is "You bring them up continually".
- Not – "Let them bring themselves up".
- Not – "Let them be brought up" - passive
- God has put the responsibility squarely on the shoulder of the parents.
- It takes intentional work to be a parent → If it is a pervasive task!

Parenting God's way is not passive. It doesn't happen automatically.

Nurture - Discipline with teeth; this lets them know how painful and dangerous sin can be.

It is a term of **rescue**. It gets the child=s attention, humbles his heart and prepares it for instruction.

It **corrects**, changes and turns around the child from sinful ways.

It must be more painful than the enjoyment of the sin.

Proverbs 13:24 & Proverbs 22:15 - drives foolishness out.

Without discipline, foolishness not only remains, but grows and becomes more and more dangerous.

Same word as Hebrews 12:5-11.

It's what a godly, loving parent does!

Refusal to consistently discipline is a choice to:

Disobey God

Neglect your child

Turn them loose to run their own life- to follow their foolish heart.

Admonition-Teaching, confronting, building inner convictions with biblical truth.

- It takes both nurture and admonition, balanced by loving, committed parents.

- You must **teach your children about God and His Word and who He is, what He requires** and it will start with your commitment to God personally.

- What you teach them about **selfishness, money, love, respect, lying, anger, fear, responsibility**, etc., has all got to be based in the **Scriptures!!** → The model is Deut. 6:4-9.

- * You can't bring children up with **your ideas** and expect God to bless.
→ It is His way that He chooses to honor.

Now, where do we start?

Wives-

Husbands-

Children-

Parents-