

# Blessings: The Pathway to Obedience

Most of you probably know by now that parenting is a difficult task. Not only do you have to make sacrifices to ensure that your children have all their physical needs met, but there is a concern about the final product. Why aren't my kids turning out right? Why can't I get them to behave? This lesson addresses the **MOST IMPORTANT** ingredient to obedience in your children. We are going to take some principles from Scripture and spend some time developing and discussing these ideas and then talking about how to practically implement them. We will begin by talking about the motivation for obedience. The best model for parenting is our relationship with Christ. In fact, our goal in parenting should be that they learn to rightly relate to God. We must model this relationship in our parenting to be successful.

## The Motivation for Obedience

Read **John 14:15** and discuss what motivates your obedience to Christ and your children's obedience to you.

Read **1 John 4:19** and discuss what motivates you to love Christ and what will motivate your children to love you.

Over the course of these lessons, we will talk about a lot of Scriptural commands regarding child rearing. If you learn all of these techniques and practice them, will everything turn out right? Read **1 Corinthians 13:1-3** and discuss the answer.

Read **John 15:10-14** and **Psalms 51:10-13** and discuss how love brings about obedience.

Does the lack of closeness with God draw you back to Him after a time of sin and carnality?

## How to Be a Blessing to your Children

Let's go through some different aspects of God's love toward us and then discuss how we can render this type of love to our children.

**Hebrews 4:15** – “For we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; but was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin.”

**Hebrews 13:5** – “Let your conversation be without covetousness; and be content with such things as ye have: for he hath said, I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee.”

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**Hebrews 12:6** – “For whom the Lord loveth he chasteneth, and scourgeth every son whom he receiveth.”

**Matthew 25:21** – “His lord said unto him, Well done, thou good and faithful servant: thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will make thee ruler over many things: enter thou into the joy of thy lord.”

**1 John 4:7-11** – “Beloved, let us love one another: for love is of God; and every one that loveth is born of God, and knoweth God. He that loveth not knoweth not God; for God is love. In this was manifested the love of God toward us, because that God sent his only begotten Son into the world, that we might live through him. Herein is love, not that we loved God, but that he loved us, and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins. Beloved, if God so loved us, we ought also to love one another.”

**Psalms 145:9** – “The LORD is good to all: and his tender mercies are over all his works.”

**Deuteronomy 6:1-2** – “Now these [are] the commandments, the statutes, and the judgments, which the LORD your God commanded to teach you, that ye might do [them] in the land whither ye go to possess it: That thou mightest fear the LORD thy God, to keep all his statutes and his commandments, which I command thee, thou, and thy son, and thy son's son, all the days of thy life; and that thy days may be prolonged.”

**Romans 8:28-29** – “And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to [his] purpose. For whom he did foreknow, he also did predestinate [to be] conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brethren.”

What are some other aspects of God's love that you appreciate? How can you mirror these to your children?

Name 2 things you can do with each child (separately) to build the bonds of love.