

1. Children, \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ your parents. Proverbs 1:8, 6:20

When to obey or not: Luke 14:26, Numbers 30, Genesis 2:24

2. Parents, \_\_\_\_\_ your children. Proverbs 3:12, 4:3-4, 17:6

GOD’S RELATIONSHIP CYCLE			
	Gracious, Unmerited Fellowship	Law and Instruction	Greater Enjoyment of Fellowship
ABRAHAM	Genesis 12:1a “Now the Lord said to Abram...”  → →	Genesis 12:1b “Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house...” → →	Genesis 12:2 “And I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you....”
ISRAEL	Exodus 3:7-8 “I have come down to deliver them ...”  → →	Exodus 20 “I am the Lord your God... <sup>3</sup> “You shall have no other gods before me.” → →	Exodus 33:7-11 “...the pillar of cloud would descend ... and the Lord would speak with Moses.”
CHRISTIANS TODAY	Romans 5:8 “but God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.”  → →	Galatians 5:16 <sup>16</sup> I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh. → →	Galatians 6:16 “And as for all who walk by this rule, peace and mercy be upon them, and upon the Israel of God.”

**Ways to Embitter Your Child\***

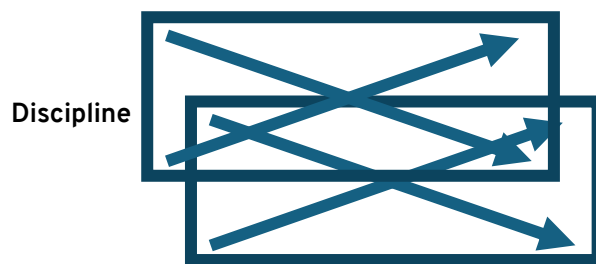
1. Establishing/maintaining a parent-centered home
2. Modeling sinful anger
3. Consistently disciplining in anger
4. Scolding
5. Being inconsistent with discipline
6. Having double standards
7. Being legalistic (Making man-made rules equal to God’s law, or a test of spirituality)
8. Not admitting when you are wrong
9. Constantly finding fault
10. Not listening to the child’s opinion or side of the story
11. Comparing children to others
12. Not having time to talk
13. Not praising the child
14. Failing to keep promises
15. Chastising him in front of others
16. Making fun of the child
17. Abusing them physically
18. Calling them names
19. Having unrealistic expectations
20. Showing favoritism toward one child over another
21. Employing child-training methodologies that are inconsistent with God’s Word

\*Adapted from Lou Prio, *The Heart of Anger* (Amityville, NY: Calvary Press, 1997), 29-51.

3. Parents, \_\_\_\_\_ your children.  
 Proverbs 13:1, 3:12

- **Why is discipline necessary?** Proverbs 22:15

- **What exactly is discipline?** Hebrews 12:11, Proverbs 13:24, 23:13-14, 29:15, 29:17, Galatians 6:1



## Instruction

Age of child →

### NEXT WEEK:

4. Parents, instruct your children.

#### Additional Resources:

*Don't Make Me Count to Three* by Ginger Hubbard

*Teach Them Diligently* by Lou Priolo

*Shepherding a Child's Heart* by Tedd Tripp

### Questions for Reflection and Discussion

1. Proverbs 17:6 says, "...the glory of children is their fathers." Read Psalm 103 and spend some time glorying in your Father in heaven. What do you learn about His fatherliness in this Psalm?
2. Looking at the verses surrounding Psalm 103:14, can you determine some possible results of God's "remembering that we are dust"?
3. Thinking especially about Psalm 103:10, are there ways in which you could apply God's attitude here in any of your family relationships?
4. In what way is the entire Bible a parenting instruction manual?
5. Take some time to look back at the chart labeled "God's Relationship Cycle." When it comes to family relationships, do you tend to start in the first column or the second? What might be some warning signs that your family relationships begin in column 2 (requirements, expectations) instead of column 1 (grace and unmerited favor)?
6. How does Jesus' life show us that while we are always to honor our parents, we are not always expected to obey them once we are adults? (Compare Luke 2:51 with Mark 3:20-21 and Mark 3:31-35. Then read John 19:26-27.)