

The Key to Close Family Relationships

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INTRODUCTION –

- Children need training they don't come ready made.
- "It is not what you think that influences your children, it is what you communicate."
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HONOR IS NOT JUST FOR CHILDREN, BUT HONOR IS ALSO FOR ADULTS –

- 1 TIM. 5:17
- MATTHEW 15:4
- 1 PETER 3:7
- 1 TIM. 5:3
- HEBREWS 13:4
- 1 SAM. 2:30

WHAT THE BIBLE SAYS ABOUT A CHILD'S JOB DESCRIPTION –

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EPHESIANS 6:1-3 "Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. Honor your father and mother, which is the first commandment with promise: that it may be well with you and you may live long on the earth."

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COL. 3:20 "Children, obey your parents in all things, for this is well pleasing to the Lord."

3 GUIDELINES – 3 PRINCIPLES FOR LIFE

PRINCIPLE # 1

Obey. “Doing what someone says, right away, without being reminded.”

Children need to learn the skill of obeying.

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The difference between obedience and honor: Obedience gets the job done, honor deals with how the job is done.

WHAT THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN HONOR AND RESPECT?

- *Honor* and respect are both good, but different.
- Respect has as its root meaning, “to fear”, respect is outward.
- Respect focuses on a person’s position or the power of an office.
- Families that overemphasis respect in family life, end up with relationships that are distant, with a lack of closeness.
- *Honor* has as its root meaning, “worth” or “value”.
- When we *honor* God, we look at His worth, His value.
- Respect acknowledges a person’s position.
- *Honor* attaches worth to that person as an individual.
- Respect teaches manners and proper behavior in the presence of others.
- *Honor* teaches an appreciation of that person.
- Respect can become a technique to make a family look good on the outside.
- *Honor* builds the hidden bonds that provide strength and lasting unity.
- Respect deals with behavior.
- *Honor* is a response that comes from the heart.

PRINCIPLE # 2

Honor. “Treating people as special, doing more than what’s expected, and having a good attitude.”

Honor – Romans 12:10 “Be kindly affectionate to one another with brotherly love, in honor, giving preference to one another.”

ESV – “Out-do one another in showing honor.” “Take delight.”

- Honor relates to many areas of life.
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Let’s look at the 3 aspects of honor:

(1) “Treating people as special...”

- We often use dishonoring speech. It’s a great way to show honor by our speech by speaking in an honoring way. This is treating people as special.
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(2) “...Doing more than what’s expected...”

(“...Doing more than what’s required...”)

Ways to teach children to do more than what’s expected:

- Take an honor look. Make sure the task is done and look for one more thing to do.
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(3) “...and having a good attitude.”

Teach children what it means to have a good attitude.

- How do you want your child to respond when you give an instruction? (“OK Mom” or “OK Dad”)
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What are the common causes of bad attitude in your family?

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PRINCIPLE # 3

Be kind. “And be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God in Christ forgave you.” (Eph. 4:32)

Kindness is about caring genuinely for others around you, wanting the best for them, and recognizing in them the same wants, needs, and even fears that you have too.

Kindness is deep caring for others.

Gifts of kindness:

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Kindness is free, so share it with someone, every day.

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Most issues in your family will be dealt with by using these 3 principles or guidelines.

WHAT DOES THIS MEAN TO THE PARENT?

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