

Leader Notes February 11, 2018

Sermon-based Homework from Colossians 3:20-21 – Extreme Makeover – Children & Parents

Quick Review

Nat's message focused on children and parents with particular emphasis on Fathers impact on a family. Did anything stand out to you? Did you take issue with any of it? What will you remember from the message?

My Story

1. How do you generally react to being told what to do?
2. What style of parenting was modeled in your home of origin, and how did you respond to it?

Digging Deeper

In this week's group study we want to take a deeper look at a Biblical story of fathers, sons, and the concept of obedience and its opposite ... dishonor.

Read together as a group the passage from I Samuel 2:11-3:21.

1. Begin by sorting out the players in this two-family story, the parents and children so you can keep them in mind.
2. Have someone in your group retell the story in their own words so everyone understands the people, the actions, and the outcomes.
3. Where in this story do see both obedience and dishonor at work? Explain and discuss.
Leaders: Review with your group Deut.5:16 and Ex. 20:12 Use the stories of honor and dishonor from these other passages if helpful: Ex. 21:15, 17; Lev. 20:9; Deut. 21:18-21; 27:16; Prov. 1:8; 15:5; 19:26.
4. Can you highlight the consequences of their actions, both good and bad, at the personal and spiritual levels?
Leaders: According to David W. Gill, Author and educator, in his book, "Doing Right" the term, "Honor comes from the Hebrew word "kabad" and means "heavy." To honor is to not take someone lightly but to treat them with seriousness. Honor does not apply unilateral obedience but rather treating someone with care and respect in deed and word. To honor someone is to treat that person as valuable, to grant influence, dignity importance and authority.
5. Can you link the truths of this story in I Samuel with the truth of Colossians 3:20-21?
Leaders: Use these other passages to apply the same process of comparison: Genesis 6:9-7:10 (Noah); Genesis 28:10-22 (Jacob); Ruth2:5-12 (Ruth); Acts 9:10-19 (Ananias)

Taking It Home

1. Who do you influence (children, students, peers, colleagues, family, etc.) and how do you lead them?
2. What can you learn from this group discussion on your attitude and response to God and your expectations of others you influence? Leaders: If your group is comprised of younger families with children in the home, consider playing a clip from or recommending the RightNow video teaching resource by Chip Ingram called, "Effective Parenting in a Defective World." It's 27 minutes long and is practical. <https://www.rightnowmedia.org/Content/Series/921?episode=3>
3. Is there a change in how you have gone about influencing and perhaps leading your family that has emerged from this discussion? Will you identify it clearly and pray about it, and if you can, ask your group to pray for your life change as it relates to obedient responses?