

02.27.2022

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A Theology of the Family
No. 7 - Children
Selected Scriptures

Family

Marriage

Singleness

Husbands

Wives

Parents

No. 7 – Children

Selected Scriptures

The Bible's four major plot points direct our thinking about children...

• **CREATION**

Proverbs 22:6 Train up a child in the way he should go; even when he is old he will not depart from it.

¹ Thessalonians 2:7 But we were gentle among you, like a nursing mother taking care of her own children. ⁸ So, being affectionately desirous of you, we were ready to share with you not only the gospel of God but also our own selves, because you had become very dear to us. . . . ¹¹ For you know how, like a father with his children, ¹² we exhorted each one of you and encouraged you and charged you to walk in a manner worthy of God, who calls you into his own kingdom and glory.

'receive'

⁸ Hear, my son, your father's instruction, and forsake not your mother's teaching... (Proverbs 1:8)

¹⁰ Hear, my son, and accept my words, that the years of your life may be many. (Proverbs 4:10)

¹⁹ Hear, my son, and be wise, and direct your heart in the way. (Proverbs 23:19)

Exodus 20

20:12

'honor'

¹² "Honor your father and your mother, that your days may be long in the land that the LORD your God is giving you."

• FALL

Kids get being children wrong when...

• REDEMPTION

Jesus Christ

- God promised to overturn the work of the serpent by sending children—specifically, one particular 'offspring,' Jesus Christ (Genesis 3:15)
- Jesus Christ, as the promised 'savior,' came as a child (Matthew 1:21)
- Even as a child, Jesus was obedient and 'submissive' to Mary and Joseph though they didn't fully understand Him (Luke 2:50-51)
- Jesus was diligent as a child to grow up, increasing in 'wisdom' and 'favor' with God and man (Luke 2:52)
- Throughout His life and ministry, Jesus was consistently committed to doing the Father's 'will,' no matter what (John 4:34)
- Jesus obeyed His Father to point of dying on the cross so that we could become children of God (John 1:12-13)
- Because of Jesus, no matter what happens to us in this life, if we've become God's children through faith in Him, then we are forever His children (1 John 3:1-2)

Ephesians 6 (cf. Colossians 3:20)

6:1-3

Children, obey your parents

in the Lord

for this is right

Honor your father and mother

¹¹ Even a child makes himself known by his acts, by whether his conduct is pure and upright. (Proverbs 20:11)

¹⁷ The eye that mocks a father and scorns to obey a mother will be picked out by the ravens of the valley and eaten by the vultures. (Proverbs 30:17)

• FUTURE

Deuteronomy 4 (cf. Psalm 78)

4:9-10

1 Timothy

5:4, 8

If you are a...

- Child...
- Parent...
- Church Member...