

Introduction:

Background of Ephesians 6:1-4:

- The book of Ephesians emphasizes the believer's new life "in Christ" a phrase repeated 30 times in the letter.
 - Chapters 4-6 from doctrine to duty, from position to practice.
 - Ephesians 5:18, commands us to be filled with the spirit, which overflows into relationships: husbands and wives (5:22-23), Children and parents (6:1-4), Servants and masters (6:5-9),
 - Thus, Paul show that the Gospel transforms the household- the most basic unit of society and the first school of discipleship.
- 1) CHILDREN: Obedience in the Lord (V.1-3) "Children obey your parents in the Lord for this is right".
- The sphere of obedience- in the Lord for this is right
 - This does not mean blind obedience to sinful commands, but obedience within the will of Christ.
 - A child submission is an act of discipleship to Jesus
 - Just as wives submit to husbands" as unto the Lord"(5:22), so Children obey your parents" in the Lord"
 - The reason for obedience-for this is right
 - "Right" (dikaion in Greek) means, morally upright and divinely ordered.
 - This is not only cultural tradition, but God's created design.
 - Obedience is not merely social courtesy; it is kingdom righteousness.
 - The reward of Obedience -Verses 2-3
 - Paul cites the 5th commandment with its promise; long life and blessing.
 - In Israel honouring parents was linked to inheriting the land, In Christ it is linked to enjoying God's blessing in His kingdom.

Application:

- 2) PARENT: Instruction of the Lord (V.4) "Fathers do not provoke your children to wrath, but bring them up in the training and instruction Of the Lord"
- The restraint in parenting.

- Do not provoke to wrath, avoid harshness, neglect or hypocrisy.
- Parents can discourage Children when they demand obedience without showing Christ love.
- The responsibility in parenting.
 - "Bring them up"- the word means to nourish, to rear with tender care.
 - Parenting is not about control but about cultivation-nurturing faith in Christ.
- The resources of parenting.
 - "Training and Instruction of the Lord."
 - Not just good manners or cultural wisdom, but Christ centered discipline and teaching.
 - Parents are not merely raising good citizen, but raising disciples of Jesus Christ.

Application:

- 3) From Start to Finish; In the Lord...Of the Lord.
- Notice Paul's structure In the Lord V.1 Of the Lord V.4.
 - A family's life begins and ends with Christ at the center.
 - Children Obey in the Lord, Parents Instruct Of the Lord.
 - When both happen, the family becomes a living testimony of the Gospel.

Modern Example:

- 4) Connection: To the great Commission (AD 33 ,2025 to 2033)
- The great commission Matthew 28;19-20 begins with Teach them to Obey" That's discipleship.
 - The family is the first great commission classroom.
 - From AD 33 2025 to 2033 God has used families to pass on the Gospel to others.
 - As we approach the 2000-year mark, the church must recommit to making disciples in the home so we can make disciples of all nations.

Conclusion:

Children Obey in the Lord Parents Raise Children of the Lord From beginning to end, the family's mission is Christ centered. When our families live this way, they not only glorify God in the home but also advance His Gospel to the nations-until the day Christ return.