

Questions for Weeks 9

Children and Parents - Ephesians 6:1-4

Topics: <u>Children</u>, <u>Discipline</u>, <u>Discouragement</u>, <u>Honor</u>, <u>Instructions</u>, <u>Jesus Christ</u>, <u>Marriage</u>, <u>Parents</u>, <u>Promises</u>, <u>Training</u>

Open It

- 1. What are some of the enjoyable aspects of being a parent?
- 2. How do you treat children differently from the way your parents treated you?
- 3. *If you could change one thing about your parents, what would you change?

Explore It

- 4. Why is a child's obedience to his or her parents pleasing to the Lord? (6:1)
- 5. Why should children obey parents? (6:1)
- 6. How is obedience to parents part of a child's obligation to Christ? (6:1)
- 7. *What does it mean to "honor your father and mother"? (6:2-3)
- 8. What was promised to Israelite children who obeyed their parents? (6:2-3)
- 9. How does God's commandment and promise to children hold true today? (6:2-3)
- 10. *What does God want fathers not to do? (6:4)
- 11. What does God want fathers to do? (6:4)
- 12. *How should children be reared and nourished? (6:4)
- 13. How is the Lord to be the center of parent-child relationships? (6:4)

Get It

- 14. Why should parents pay attention to their child's natural bent?
- 15. *Why is it easier for children to obey fair and loving parents than unreasonable and demanding parents?
- 16. How does rearing children in the "training and instruction of the Lord" provide guidelines for fathers?
- 17. *How does honoring your parents bring you blessing?
- 18. How do you feel about your ability to be a good parent?
- 19. How can the Lord support you in your role as a parent?
- 20. How can a parent avoid exasperating his or her children?

Apply It

- 21. *What can you do to improve or strengthen your relationship with your parents?
- 22. How can you avoid exasperating your children?
- 23. How do you need to nurture healthy family relationships this week?

Slaves and Masters - **Ephesians 6:5-9**

Topics: <u>Favoritism</u>, <u>Heart</u>, <u>Jesus Christ</u>, <u>Obedience</u>, <u>Respect</u>, <u>Rewards</u>, <u>Serving</u>, <u>Sincerity</u>, <u>Slavery</u>, Work

Open It

- 1. Had you lived long ago and owned slaves, what kind of slave owner would you have been?
- 2. *If you were a slave, what would be the worst part of being someone's property?

Explore It

- 3. *Why did Paul tell slaves to obey their masters "with respect and fear"? (6:5)
- 4. What did Paul tell slaves to do? (6:5-8)
- 5. What responsibilities did slaves have to their masters? $(\underline{6:5-8})$
- 6. How did Paul transform the work of the slave? (6:5-8)
- 7. *How could slaves serve the Lord while working for their masters? $(\underline{6:5-8})$
- 8. *How would slaves benefit from winning the favor of their masters? (6:6)
- 9. With what attitude should the slave serve his master? (6:7)
- 10. What reward for Christian service could the slave expect? (6:7-8)
- 11. What directives did Paul give slave owners? (6:9)
- 12. Why did Paul warn owners against abusing their slaves? (6:9)
- 13. How does God view rank or social status? (6:9)

Get It

- 14. *Why did Paul call slaves to obey and not to revolt against the system of slavery?
- 15. How were Paul's instructions helpful and protective to both slave and slave owner?
- 16. How did Paul's words to slaves and masters relate to the teaching in the rest of his letter to the Ephesians?
- 17. How do we enslave certain groups in our society?
- 18. How does God want us to treat people who are subordinate to us?
- 19. How does God want us to treat people who are over us?
- 20. *How does God want us to treat all people with whom we work?
- 21. When should Christians work for social justice?
- 22. What importance do you attach to rank or social status?
- 23. What importance should we attach to rank or social status?

Apply It

- 24. How can you improve your attitude toward someone you work with?
- 25. *How can you remember to serve all people wholeheartedly, as if you were serving the Lord?