

Little Children

Written by Don Perkins

(The following is a sermon taught by bro. Perkins at Milano, Texas, thus the refer-ences to the assembly.) □

Ephesians 6:1-3 says, Children, obey your parents in the Lord: for this is right. Honor thy father and mother; (which is the first command-ment with promise;) that it may be well with thee, and thou mayest live long on the earth."

This is a lesson just for you chil-dren. I know you have had to sit still and listen to our big words and long lessons so much that it is about time you had a lesson of your own, just for you. You old folks can listen if you want to, but this may be a good time to catch up on your nap time. We have such a wonderful bunch of children around here. I hope they will stay awake and listen.

You children mind your mom and dad as you should. But did you know that the Bible tells you to obey them? If you don't mind, it isn't just your parents who are hurt, but God is sad too. When you do the things that your parents tell you to, that makes them very proud of you. They may even brag about you to other people, for being so good and smart. When you mind real well, it brings honor to your mother and daddy. One of the Old Testament's ten commandments was to honor your father and mother. That means for you to be real glad that THEY are your father and mother so you will do everything you can to make them proud and happy.

Did you know that your mom and daddy love you more than anyone else on earth? They love you more than your school teacher or your playmates or your aunts and uncles or your cousins. Even more than Grandma or Grandpa. They may give you the things you want, but mom and dad give you what you need as well. With them, YOU are the most!

Did you know that not many years ago your mother and daddy were a lot like you are now? They were little and sometimes naughty. They had to be corrected like they correct you. And see what it did for them. They have been little like you so they know how hard it is to be good all the time. Can you imagine your daddy in a mud ball fight and getting his clothes torn. Can you picture your mother getting into the kind of mis-chief that little girls get into? But look at them now. They are so pretty and handsome and wise.

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They have grown up to be so dignified, you would never have guessed that they used to have to be corrected when they were little. The correction that they got made them the good parents that they are now. Wonder what kind of mama and daddy they would have been if they had never been spanked when they needed it? When they correct you they are trying to help you grow up to be wise and dignified like they are now.

A few years ago there were a bunch of hippie kids who thought they knew more than their parents. They said "never trust anyone over thirty." Now they are over thirty, about like your parents are, but a lot of them are in jails or hospitals because of the way they lived. They aren't very happy any more. You are lucky. Your mom and dad were brought up right and didn't fall in with that crowd. Now you know what makes your parents happy or sad. Always try to do things that make them happy and never sad. After all they are getting older now. They know a lot because they have been to school. They have learned how to make a good home for you and how to make a living and cook supper. They work hard so you can all stay together.

When you have a problem, always go to your parents for help first. They have been young and know how bad things can be. They know how bad troubles make you feel. They have the answer you need to feel better. If you don't ask for your parents help you might make some real serious mistakes when you grow up. If you have to decide something real important, always talk it over with mother and daddy first. Remember they are wise and they love you so much that they don't want you to get hurt. They want to help you do all the right things. Remember they love you more than anyone else, and they don't want you to get hurt. You will always be their little boy or girl even when you get big.

There is someone else who loves you. Jesus loves all the little children so much that he wants all of us old folks to be like you children. He also tells us that we must be born again. That would make us like little babies wouldn't it? We all want to make Jesus proud of us and happy. So let's all be good boys and girls and do what he tells us to do.

Being a little boy or little girl is pretty hard sometimes, but you have a good mom and dad to help you. That is a lot more than a lot of children have. Aren't you lucky! Now wake them up so we can sing a song, have a prayer and go home. -714 Vogel, Rockdale, TX 76567