

3. Learning Obedience

“Children obey your parents” (Eph. 6:1) is probably one of the first Bible verses you memorized. Children who obey their parents, are more likely to obey God. We must **learn** obedience.

When Jesus was a boy, He obeyed Joseph and Mary. Luke 2:51 says Jesus “was subject unto them.” He did what His parents told Him to do, and tried to please them. We should try to be like Jesus.

When children do not obey, God wants parents to discipline them. Parents who love their children will work hard to make them obey because they know it is what is best for the children. Christian parents also work to help their children become obedient because they know it is pleasing to God.

Discipline is very hard for Christian parents today. There is much false teaching in our world about discipline. Some wrongly teach that slapping a child’s hand or spanking a child is abuse. This is not true. When my son, Mike, was a little boy, a friend kicked him very hard with his boots. The boy’s mother did not spank him. She said, “Now, don’t do that.”



Do you think the boy stopped? Of course not! The next time he got mad, he hit or kicked again. Mike did not act that way, because I understood that spanking helps children learn self-control.

To Help Us Understand

Christian parents must train children to obey. Read each of the three examples. Tell what kind of person each child will most likely become. Choose your answers from the words below.



1. Sue loved riding her bicycle, but she often forgot to put it away. Dad told her the next time she left her bike in the driveway, he would spank her. Sue forgot the next night, and Dad spanked her. Do you think Sue will remember next time? Sue is learning to be:

2. Sam also loved riding his bicycle, but forgot to put it away. His dad warned him not to leave his bike in the driveway, and said he would spank him next time. But Dad did not spank him. Then Dad came home late one night and ran over Sam's bike. So he bought him a new bike. Did Sam learn to be careful? Sam is learning to be:



3. Henry loved basketball. His dad told him to come home in time for supper, but Henry seldom obeyed. Dad listened to a sermon, and learned the importance of teaching obedience. He warned Henry that he would spank him if he did not obey. Henry did not believe Dad meant it, so he did not obey. The next night Henry was spanked when he came home late. Dad talked to Henry about obeying, and warned him that the next time he would spank him and ground him for a week, with no basketball. Do you think Henry obeyed? Henry is learning to be:

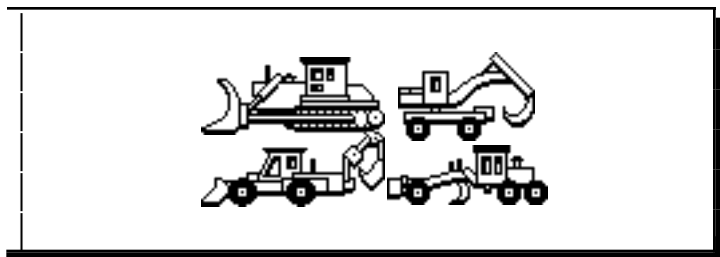
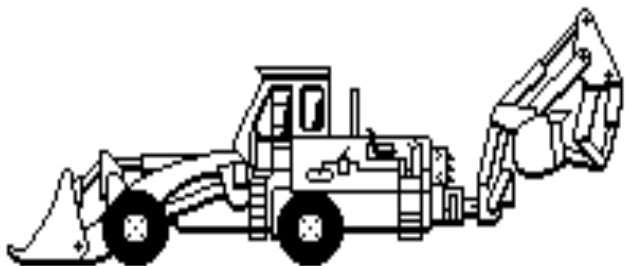


- A. Careful B. Careless C. Obedient D. Disobedient
E. Respectful F. Disrespectful

Which children will be most likely to obey other adults and God?

Circle the correct answer:

1. When Mom tells me to pick up my toys and come in, I should:



Keep playing in the sand

Pick up my toys and go in.

2. If I don't obey, and Mom spansks me, I should:



Pout



Pray and ask God to help me do better.

3. If Dad says to come in and eat, I should:



Go right in.



Swing a few more minutes.



Children
obey your
parents.

Obey

I	C	L	O	K	N	O	W	N	N
W	F	H	O	B	A	N	T	I	P
P	W	R	I	R	E	T	S	E	D
A	R	O	I	L	D	Y	E	N	O
R	I	O	R	E	D	K	A	B	E
E	G	Y	G	D	N	M	O	D	A
N	H	N	E	E	M	D	D	M	Y
T	T	R	V	O	P	A	S	R	E
S	U	O	C	N	H	E	A	R	T
P	L	T	S	D	O	I	N	G	S

Find the underlined words in the word search:

1. "Children your in the for this is " (Eph. 6:1).
2. Jesus said, "If ye me, my commandments" (John 14:15).
3. Jesus said, "Ye are my if ye do whatsoever I you" (John 15:14).
4. "Even a is by his , whether his work be and whether it be " (Prov. 20:11).
5. "Thy have I hid in mine that I might not against thee" (Psalm 119:11).



NOTE TO THE CUSTOMER:

The second time this book was printed, a few new activities were added and the teachers' instructions were expanded. Objectives were added. All CDs include objectives. Books which have been printed in the past couple of years also contain objectives. The teachers' instructions for this lesson appear below:

LESSON 3: LEARNING OBEDIENCE

OBJECTIVES:

Teach children the importance of obeying their parents. Help them accept discipline as an expression of love.

Impress upon young minds that God wants them to obey their parents, and they can't obey God unless they obey their parents.

Print the text page and the "To Help Us Understand" activity for all students. If your students can't read, you will need to read the examples to them, but let them answer. These situations are NOT open ended or values clarification activities. This author was one of the most vocal in the brotherhood regarding the rejection of "values clarification" as it was promoted by the humanists. However, we can use situations to help students understand that God has given us absolute standards, and He requires our obedience! Remember, you are the teacher, and it is your job to help students understand what God expects of them. It isn't going to damage their self esteem if you gently guide them to the correct answers. As a matter of fact, they will develop better self esteem when they know they are behaving in a manner which is pleasing to God.

Page 2: 1. Yes; A and C. 2. No; B and D. 3. Yes; C and E.

Page 3: The circle the correct answer page is for younger students who are not able to read well. Read the questions to them and let them take turns giving the correct answer.

Page 4: Most children enjoy coloring pictures, especially with markers. If you want to use this as a different activity, copy it on cover stock. After the children color it, cut it into a puzzle. Encourage older students to give the puzzle to a younger brother or sister. Give them baggies in which to place the puzzle pieces.

The alternate page 3 word search has been added for the benefit of older students who can read and will be able to look up Bible passages. Some of the verses given here may have been memory verses in the past, so they may already know some of the answers without looking up the verses.

Obey

