

Study Guide #16 (Leader's Guide): K-group Bible Study for Week of February 25, 2018

Title of the Lesson: Parents and Children Submitting to One Another

This week's bible passage talks about how parents and children submit to each other out of reverence for Christ. Here, submission can be defined as putting the other person's needs and desires first in order to serve the other person out of reverence for the Lord. This type of "Spirit filled" activity is critical to being a disciple of Christ and to developing the type of family that honors God and fulfills his will.

- Remind your group that one of the discipleship skills that we want to develop this year is the ability to verbalize scripture to people with whom we will have the opportunity to minister. So we will continue to ask one of you to tell the bible story from memory.
- So, let's give our undivided attention to _____ as he/she verbalizes tonight's bible study passage.

Ephesians 5:18-21 and 6:1-4 (ESV)

¹⁸ And do not get drunk with wine, for that is debauchery, but be filled with the Spirit, ¹⁹ addressing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody to the Lord with your heart, ²⁰ giving thanks always and for everything to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, ²¹ submitting to one another out of reverence for Christ...

⁶ Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. ² "Honor your father and mother" (this is the first commandment with a promise), ³ "that it may go well with you and that you may live long in the land." ⁴ Fathers, do not provoke your children to anger, but bring them up in the discipline and instruction of the Lord.

Questions

- Now, let's open our bibles to Ephesians 5:18-6:4. Let's review the scripture and look for details that need to be emphasized and remembered.
- After clarifying what the bible says, ask what resonated with you the most and why?
- Context Analysis: Pay close attention to Ephesians 5:21. How is this verse connected to verse 18 and how is it connected to Ephesians 6:1-4?
- Looking at Ephesians 6:1-4, identify how children are to submit to their fathers (vv. 1-2) and note the reasons given for doing this (vv. 1-2). What is your reaction to what God is commanding children to do and to the reasons provided for doing it? Also, what is your reaction to the promises being given in verse 3?
- This passage seems to be addressed primarily to children who are still growing up in the home and being raised by their parents. They must be old enough to have established their own relationships with Christ, but are not yet grown. How can children of different

ages apply this principle (elementary children, junior high children, high school children, college-aged children)?

- How should adult children apply this text?
- Note how fathers are commanded to submit/serve their children. Specifically, what are they to do and not do (6:4)? Why do you think these specific instructions were given?
- Why do you think the text only mentions fathers and not mothers? (Brainstorm some possible answers)
- Share examples of parents and/or children who didn't honor this teaching in their relationship. What was the result?
- Share examples of parents and/or children who honored this teaching in their relationship. What was the result?
- How can Fellowship Church do a better job of supporting, equipping, and guiding its parents as they disciple their children in the Lord? Is there something specific that your K-group can do to help?
- What do we learn about God from this passage?
- What do we learn about ourselves (mankind) from this passage?
- What actions do you plan to take as a result of this study and discussion?

Close with prayer. Pray specifically that the group can follow through with what God has put on their hearts to do.