

## Take Responsibility!

Who is ultimately responsible for the upbringing of our children? The school? The church? No, the **parents solely** have that responsibility. Although parents may delegate their authority to others in the training of their children, the responsibility itself cannot be delegated. Have you ever seen this verse?

“Children, **obey** your parents in the Lord, for this is right.” Eph. 6:1

This is probably the most quoted verse from parents to their children. But, as a parent, when you think about it, this verse actually puts a huge responsibility on the parent! Yes, our kids are to obey us, but what are we to tell them to do? Let’s check out some other passages to examine our parental responsibilities.

“These commandments that I give you today are to be upon your hearts. Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up.” Deut. 6:6-7

“Train a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not turn from it.” Prov. 22:6

“Fathers, do not exasperate your children; instead, bring them up in the training and instruction of the Lord.” Eph. 6:4

“He must manage his own family well and see that his children obey him with proper respect.” 1 Tim. 3:4

According to these verses, it is clear that we parents have the responsibility in the training of our children. Although there are many other responsibilities, the responsibility of **training** is of utmost importance. So, what are we supposed to teach our children? We could start with the greatest commandments in Matt. 22:37-39:

“Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: Love your neighbor as yourself.”

How do we teach our children to love God with our whole being? We show God that we love Him by worshiping Him. This is done by reading and meditating on His Word, praying, singing, giving, assembling with other believers, telling others about Him, and living for Him completely every day of our lives. We train our children to do these things as we allow them to participate in worshiping God with us.

How do we teach our children to love our neighbors as ourselves? As we humble ourselves and interact daily with others, we have great opportunities to show how this is done with our children watching. How seriously are we taking the responsibility of training up our children in the way they should go?