

THE SPIRIT-FILLED FAMILY

Ephesians 6:1-4

I. Kids, submit to your parents as God-given authorities (vv. 1-3).

- A. True submission is to Christ (v. 1).
- B. True submission is from the heart (v. 2)
- C. True submission leads to blessing (v. 3).

II. Parents, love your kids as God-given gifts (v. 4).

- A. True love leads not to dictatorship (v. 4a).
- B. True love leads to discipleship (v. 4b).

QUESTIONS FOR FAMILY WORSHIP

1. How does the command in v. 18 to be filled with the Spirit relate to the commands here to children and parents?
2. Why is it significant that Paul addresses children in his letter to the church? What does this teach us about his view of the church and public worship?
3. What does it mean to obey “in the Lord”? Why do we need new hearts in order to fulfill this command?
4. What is the blessing that is held out to Spirit-filled, Christ-fearing, parent-honoring kids?
5. How does love undergird the two commands Paul gives to parents? Does God give parents authority to be dictators or disciple-makers?
6. Was there anything specific that convicted you from the message?

QUESTIONS FOR PRIVATE REFLECTION

1. Has Paul’s teaching on the Spirit in Ephesians caused me to be more dependent upon His presence and power in my life? Do I pray regularly for Christ to fill me with His Spirit?
2. *Kids*: Do I desire to please Christ? And does that desire work itself out in obedience to the parents He has placed over me?
3. *Parents*: Am I using my God-given, parental authority to nurture my children to spiritual maturity? Is my chief end in parenting that my children might glorify God and enjoy Him forever?