

Safe Haven

A Haven in Our Family

September 2, 2018 / Dan Solofra

How do I take the family I have and make it the healthiest it can be?

¹ Unless the LORD builds the house, the builders **labor in vain**. Unless the LORD watches over the city, the guards stand **watch in vain**. ² **In vain you rise early and stay up late, toiling for food to eat—for he grants sleep to those he loves.** ³ Children are a heritage from the LORD, offspring a reward from him. Psalm 127:1-3, NIV

Many families are working hard at the _____.

¹ Children, **obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right.** ² "**Honor your father and mother**"—which is the first commandment with a promise— ³ "so that it may go well with you and that you may enjoy long life on the earth."
⁴ Fathers, do not exasperate your children; instead, **bring them up in the training and instruction of the Lord.** Ephesians 6:1-4, NIV

God has given a specific commandment to _____ the valuable relationship he has given in a _____.

¹ Children, **obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right.** Ephesians 6:1, NIV

The first role addressed is that of a child. God encourages children to _____ their parents.

²⁹ Peter and the other apostles replied: "We must obey God rather than human beings!" Acts 5:29, NIV

"**Honor your father and mother**"—which is the first commandment with a promise— ³ "so that it may go well with you and that you may enjoy long life on the earth." Ephesians 6:2-3, NIV

God gives us the _____ of this commandment. When children obey their parents, they are _____.

⁴ Fathers, do not exasperate your children; instead, **bring them up in the training and instruction of the Lord.** Ephesians 6:4, NIV

The message to fathers:

Don't exasperate - Don't lead to _____ places.

Do train and instruct - Do lead to _____ places.

- Be _____.
- Be _____.
- Be _____.
- _____ the behavior you want to see.
- Lead your kids to _____.

¹ How good and pleasant it is when God's people live together in unity! . . . For there the LORD bestows his blessing, even life forevermore. Psalm 133:1;3^b, NIV

MEMORY VERSE

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

My next step: I will value my family and embrace the role that God has given me in my family. I will obey my parents and model a life of faith in Jesus that I want to see in my children.

What's your next step today?

Mark it on your Communication Card.