



*50 years of God's Grace*

*Monday April 25th, 2022*

**Monthly Focus: *Obedience***

**This Weeks Scripture: *Colossians 3:18-25***

**Weekly Verse: *Colossians 3:20 Children, obey your parents in all things: for this is well pleasing unto the Lord.***

How we admire the obedience a dog shows to its master! Archibald Rutledge wrote that one day he met a man whose dog had just been killed in a forest fire. Heartbroken, the man explained to Rutledge how it happened. Because he worked out-of-doors, he often took his dog with him. That morning, he left the animal in a clearing and gave him a command to stay and watch his lunch bucket while he went into the forest. His faithful friend understood, for that's exactly what he did. Then a fire started in the woods, and soon the blaze spread to the spot where the dog had been left. But he didn't move. He stayed right where he was, in perfect obedience to his master's word. With tearful eyes, the dog's owner said, "I always had to be careful what I told him to do, because I knew he would do it." Such obedience is hard to find among humans. Teaching dogs to obey is easy but teaching children to obey is challenging. Animals seem to forgive easier than people.

When parents are continually finding fault with their children and confusing the distinction between willful offences or stubborn disobedience; and when they sharply reprove even the defects of their attempts to obey, without commending what is right; children lean to the notion that it is impossible to please their parents, and so discouragement produces a careless attitude. Also, they then count their parents angry and unapproachable: they shun family company and

prefer the secular or worldly entertainment; and in consequence are exposed to numberless and powerful temptations. Fathers provoke not!

## **FIVE STEPS IN LEADING YOUR FAMILY IN DEVOTIONS AND PRAYER TIME**

**1<sup>st</sup> - Take a few minutes to discuss the Scripture.**

*Insight discussion/ Application discussion*

**2<sup>nd</sup> - Ask your family for personal praises**

*Works of God/ Blessings from above*

**3<sup>rd</sup> – Take personal prayer requests**

- Needs
- Concerns
- Desires

**4<sup>th</sup> – Personal quiet time of confession and forgiveness**

- Things I have said
- Things others have said
- Things I have thought
- Things I have done
- Things others have done

**5<sup>th</sup> – Pray**

- Adoration /Start by thanking the Lord
- Confession/Needs
- Thanksgiving/Protection

- Supplication/Provision