

Teen Topics

Understanding Our Parents (Part 1)

In order to understand our parents, we must first consider the world from their perspective. When you were born, your parents received a great bundle of joy (you!), as well as a great bundle of responsibility!

Bible Verses Relating to Parents

Considering that we are all accountable to God concerning how we obey His Word, let's consider what our parents are answerable for. Here are a few of the many verses dealing with the role of a parent. Note the responsibilities they have:

- > **Prov. 22:6** – Train your child to live as God intends.
- > **Deut. 6:6-7** – Teach your child about the things of God.
- > **Prov. 13:24** – Parents must discipline out of love.
- > **Eph. 6:4** – Don't stir your child to anger, yet instruct them.

Considering Life from a Parent's Perspective

Looking at the above verses from your parents' perspective reveals the real significance of what is being said:

- > Your parents will one day stand before the God of the Universe and give account for how well they raised you (no matter how difficult you make things on them).
- > Your parents must figure out how to effectively instruct, discipline, and raise you (all while keeping up with your other siblings, a house, job, other obligations, etc.).

We are tempted to think life revolves around us, and so when our parents make rules that keep us from getting "our way" we get frustrated. We must remember that our parents sacrifice a lot of things they once cherished (extra time for friends, spouse, hobbies, etc.) in order to fulfill their role as a parent. When you think your parents are a hassle, remember the sacrifices and responsibilities that go into parenting. It shouldn't take long before you appreciate all they do for you!