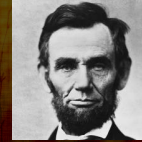





Intelligence, patriotism, Christianity, and a firm reliance on Him, who has never yet forsaken this favored land, are still competent to adjust, in the best way, all our present difficulty.

First Inaugural Address on March 4, 1861



I am much indebted to the good christian people of the country for their constant prayers and consolations; and to no one of them, more than to yourself. The purposes of the Almighty are perfect, and must prevail, though we erring mortals may fail to accurately perceive them in advance. We hoped for a happy termination of this terrible war long before this; but God knows best, and has ruled otherwise. We shall yet acknowledge His wisdom and our own error therein. Meanwhile we must work earnestly in the best light He gives us, trusting that so working still conduces to the great ends He ordains. Surely He intends some great good to follow this mighty convulsion, which no mortal could make, and no mortal could stay.

Letter to Eliza Gurney on September 4, 1864



Summary

Our goal as parents as we see it through the lens of Proverbs is to teach to the heart. Wisdom comes from knowing the Lord in our hearts. Discipline is not based on behavior but on the motives of the heart. Today we will look at the heart in relation to obedience. These also are heart issues.

A decorative title slide with a dark, textured background. At the top center is a white, ornate scrollwork frame containing the word "Proverbs" in a large, white, serif font. Below it, in a smaller, white, sans-serif font, is the subtitle "SEEKING GOD'S WISDOM". Below the frame, the words "Obedience & Honor" are written in a large, white, serif font.

Questions:

1. What does it mean to give honor?
2. How should children honor their parents?
3. Is there a difference between honor, respect, and obedience?
4. How do we obey/honor God?



Respect – *phobos* – to fear

Honor – *timae* – worth, value

How do we honor God?

- Spend time with Him
- Through our actions
- Model Jesus in our thoughts
- Tell others about what God has done for us
- Love Him and those He loves
- Give Him respect (in worship, in time, in sacrifice)

Proverbs
SEEKING GOD'S WISDOM

Proverbs 31:28-29

Her children arise and call her blessed; her husband also, and he praises her: "Many women do noble things, but you surpass them all."

Proverbs
SEEKING GOD'S WISDOM

Proverbs 20:20

If a man curses his father or mother, his lamp will be snuffed out in pitch darkness.

Ephesians 6:1-3

Children, **obey** your parents in the Lord, for this is right. "**Honor** your father and mother"--which is the first commandment with a promise- - "that it may go well with you and that you may enjoy long life on the earth."

Obedience

- Doing what someone says
- Right away
- Without being reminded

Honor

- Treats people as special
- Doing more than what's expected
- Having a good attitude

Honor makes obedience easier.
Obedience does things well.
Honor does them beautifully.

Is this honor?

WORLD'S 2nd
GREATEST
DAD!

(We're sure the 1st place dad was on steroids or something but nobody's talking)

Forcing the issue!

EXODUS 20:12

OK, DAD! I GET THE POINT AND I WILL MOW THE LAWN...

HONOR YOUR FATHER AND MOTHER

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Ways to give honor – it starts with you!

- Demonstrate honor to your parents
- Speak kindly of your spouse; brag about them in front of the kids
 - Praise them for working, doing a project, cooking
 - if divorced, don't drag the kids into the negativity;
- Use manners – please, thank you.
- Words of appreciation – “That meal was great”, “thanks for coming to the game”, writing letters
- Give gifts with letters of encouragement to others
- How you invest your life is a reflection of honoring your parents.

Bottom Line

As parents, we have the major responsibility to teach our children about obedience and honor. Obedience can be forced, but honor never is. It is an issue of the heart. It takes a strong commitment to our children to model, and at times demand, obedience so that ultimately they know how to honor God and others effectively.