

Quarter 4 Lesson 4
Sixth Grade
Obeying God in Our Family Life

**Memory Verse: "Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right."
Eph. 6:1**

What is marriage?

In the Beginning after God had created the heavens and the earth with all of the wonders of nature and its many creatures, He made man in His own image. Although man had the company of many animals, this was not enough. God allowed Adam to see that he needed a companion of his own, so the Lord God created woman. This was the first marriage.



Read Genesis 2:18-24. Here we learn that:

- God created all animals and had Adam name them.
- God saw that it was not good for man to be alone, so He created woman to be a "helper fit for him."
- God said that man should leave his father and mother and hold fast to his wife, and they should become one flesh.

Jesus added to this thought in Matthew 19:4-6. "...Have you not read that He who created them from the Beginning made them male and female, and said, 'Therefore a man shall leave his father and mother and hold fast to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh'? So they are no longer two but one flesh. What therefore God has joined together, let not man separate." In other words, marriage is designed for life. It is a sacred institution created by God and is successful when the husband and wife follow the Biblical instructions given in the holy scriptures. Therefore, each family member has a role to fulfill.

What is the role of the husband?

Read Eph 5: 23-25; 28-31, 33.

--A husband is to be the head of the wife.

This does not mean that a husband is to act like a tyrant...my way or the highway. Instead, he shoulders a great responsibility where he is to consider the needs and desires of the wife, weigh all options, and make decisions that are best for the family.



--A husband is to love his wife as Christ loves the church.
Jesus gave Himself for the church.
He nourishes and cherishes the church.
A husband is to love his wife as he does his own body...to also
nourish and cherish his wife.

--A husband is to show love to his wife by giving her physical attention and by
showing affection.



--A husband is to respect his wife.
By showing understanding
By being considerate
By showing her honor
As a fellow heir of the grace of life (a fellow Christian) being worthy of
respect

--A husband is to support his family. **Read I Tim. 5:8.**
Husbands have the responsibility to provide for the needs of their families.
Needs...not wants! A man should be able to provide financial support for
his family.

What is the role of the wife?

Read Eph. 5:22-24

--Wives are to submit to their husbands.
As to the Lord
As it is in keeping with the will of God
Without nagging, with gentleness and quietness **Read I Peter 3:1, 2, 4.**
If wives fail to submit, it can cause a breakdown in the chain of authority.
Every institution must have a chain of command.



--Just as the prayers of a husband who disrespects and/or mistreats his wife are
hindered, so are the prayers hindered by a wife who refuses to submit to her
husband.

--Wives are to love their husbands.

--Wives are to be affectionate to their husbands.

In short, the husband is to love and respect his wife as he takes on the role of

leader in the home. The wife is to love and respect her husband as she takes on the role of his helper. Please, understand that a wife being in the role of a helper in the biblical sense is not a "put-down," but it is an honor.

What are the roles of parents?

--Parents are to love their children. They should take up both quantity and quality time with their children. Children are a blessing from God.

Read Ps. 127:3.

--Parents are to bring up their children by training and teaching them the commandments of God. **Read**

Eph. 6:4; Deut. 6: 6-9. This responsibility belongs first to parents, not Bible class teachers, youth ministers, etc. These others may help enrich what has been taught at home, but they are not supposed to be the main sources of teaching children to love God and to do His will.

--Parents are to discipline their children to help motivate them to live righteous lives. **Read Heb. 12: 9-11.** Pay special attention to verse 11!



What are the roles of children?

--Obey and honor your parents **Read Eph. 6:1-3; Col. 3:20.**

--To keep the commandments **Read Prov. 1:8; 6:20-23; 15:5.**

--Respect their parents **Read Matt. 15:4.** Children who mock, ridicule, sass, or otherwise show disrespect to their parents are also showing a rebellious attitude toward God. **Read Deut. 21:18-21** and find out what happened to disobedient children during the Old Testament times.



--Even Jesus was submissive to His parents, Mary and Joseph. **Read Lk. 2:51.**

How are you fulfilling your role in the family according to God's commandments?

In this lesson we have looked at marriage and the family as God designed it. Are most homes following this model today? Sadly, it seems they are not.

Some kids live in homes where parents are separated or divorced. Some kids live in homes where abuse occurs. Some kids live in homes where the Bible is rarely, if ever, opened. How sad this must make God!



The bottom line is this. God, the Creator, made the family unit and gave instructions on how it is to be maintained. If each person in the family, (husband, wife, children) follows the role given him/her by God, a happy and pleasant home life will exist. If one or more family members fail to fulfill his or her role as designed by God, unhappiness and turmoil will ensue. None of us has any control over the family into which we are born. However, you do have a great deal of control over the kind of family you will have someday. Are families perfect? No! Because people are not perfect! But if you decide to marry a faithful Christian, your chances of having the kind of home God wants you to have is much greater!

You will soon enter the seventh grade, and before you know it, you will be graduating. **What decisions can you make now so that someday you can have a Christian home?**