

## **Last week's Message Summary**

### **Ephesians 6:1-9 "BLESSED CHILDREN"**

• *6:1-4 " Children, obey your parents because you belong to the Lord, for this is the right thing to do. Honor your father and mother. This is the first of the Ten Commandments that ends with a promise. If you honor your father and mother, you will live a long life, full of blessing. And now a word to you fathers. Don't make your children angry by the way you treat them. Rather, bring them up with the discipline and instruction of the Lord."*

**God's promise:** Long life and blessing to children who grow up honoring and obeying parents and others having responsibility and authority over them. This is something everyone wants. People do a lot of things to have a long life and blessing such as jogging and taking vitamins. But the greatest source of long life and blessing is the blessing of the Lord on people who walk right.

• *Proverbs 6:20-22 "My son, obey your father's commands and don't neglect your mother's teaching. Keep their words always in your heart. Tie them around your neck. Wherever you walk, their counsel can lead you. When you sleep, they will protect you. When you wake up in the morning, they will advise you. For these commands and this teaching are a lamp to light the way ahead of you. The correction of discipline is the way to life."*

• **More of a word to parents.** The responsibility for blessed children lies in parents who raise their children in the discipline and instruction of the Lord. The spirit person in a child says to parents, "Don't let me down. Teach me God's ways and compel me, if need be, to honor and obey you and walk in God's way."

**ANGER** "Don't make your children angry by the way you treat them."

• Good Anger - Tough Love. Children are going to get angry when their parents hinder them from destructive and self-destructive behavior and relationships. This is tough love.

• Not good anger - when the parent is not "...quick to listen, slow to speak, and slow to get angry." (James 1:19) or is selfish and abusive.

**BRING UP** in God's revelation, not human ideas. "Rather bring them up with the discipline and instruction of the Lord." The good news is that we don't have to figure out what to teach our children. We distrust the wisdom of the world. "There is a way which seems right to a man, but its end is the way of death. Even in laughter the heart may sorrow, and the end of mirth may be grief." Proverbs 14:12-13 KJV

