

Children Obey Your Parents In All Things
Colossians 3:20

NKJV: Children, obey your parents in all things, for this is well pleasing to the Lord.

Greek: Τὰ τέκνα ὑπακούετε τοῖς γονεῦσιν κατὰ πάντα τοῦτο γὰρ εὐάρεστόν ἐστιν ἐν κυρίῳ

A. THE AUDIENCE: _____ (τέκνα – tekna)

Although this word is used in several different contexts and has different meanings depending on its context, τέκνα does not have a specific gender or even age affixed to it. In this context it would obviously indicate biological children. It can also be understood to be addressing the young people in the assembly (kids and teenagers).

We can make several observations about children from this text:

1. **Children are _____** – The surrounding verses are speaking of the home and orderly living within the home; children are a normal and expected part of marriage. Psalm 127:3-5 states that children are a blessing and reward, and Genesis 1:28, which as a blessing commands couples to be fruitful and multiply.
2. **Children, or young people, are _____ in the assembly at Colosse** – The importance of children being in the local assembly cannot be measured. Children are allowed to be and were expected to be present by Paul. Assembling together with believers includes assembling together with children with the purpose of encouraging them to love and good works (Hebrews 10:25).
3. **Children, or young people, you are the _____ of the command** – Paul is speaking directly to the children in this verse, not the parents. Children and young people, your parents are not given the command to tell to you, rather, Paul is speaking directly to you in this verse. You are to be taught the word of God in the assembly as much as the adults.

Do I understand that children, whatever their age, are a part of the assembly and that I have a responsibility to encourage them to obey God and love one another? Children or young people, do you understand that you are in the assembly to learn? Parents: Do I understand that children are a blessing from God?

B. THE COMMAND: _____ (ὑπακούετε – hupakouete)

1. **The Word: The word comes from two Greek words:**

- ὑπό - Under
- ἀκούω – Hear (English word “acoustic”)

Το ὑπακούετε something or someone means that you are placing yourself under the authority of what is heard, to listen to what is said and to carry out the command.

Biblical Examples of Children Obeying their Parents:

- **Abraham and Isaac (Genesis 22):** Isaac (apprx. 20 years old) obediently followed Abraham to the point of his own death.
- **Jesus (Luke 2:51):** Jesus, the Creator submitted to Joseph and Mary because they were His parents.

This word is used in the present tense imperative, which means:

It is a _____ to obey at _____ **time and** _____.

Is a command optional? No. Children and young people, have you made up your mind that it is right to listen to and obey your parents? Do you?

2. **The object of Obedience (Whom do I obey?): Your _____**

This command assumes that certain things are true about parents and children:

TO PARENTS

1. **You are _____ for your children** – The direct responsibility to train and discipline your children belongs to parents, not to the government, schools, or daycares.
2. **You are to _____ command your children** – God has assigned the responsibility to parents to be actively involved in the lives of their children. Parenting is not passive, children are rebellious by nature and how you “parent” will affect them for life for good or bad. **Proverbs 29:16, 22:15, 23:13.**

TO CHILDREN OR YOUNG PEOPLE

1. **God has placed you under your parents'** _____ – Your willing to obey your parents will reflect your willingness to submit to all other authorities in place by God, including God. How are you doing?
 2. **God commands you to obey** _____ **parents** – God has given you a father and mother for your benefit and it is expected that you obey both your father and mother, and not just the one or the other.
 3. **God has given your parents to** _____ **you what to do** – Has there ever been anything that your parents told you to do but you didn't want to? Even in such times you must choose to obey God by obeying your parents no matter how much you don't want to.
 4. **God commands you to obey your parents, even though they are** _____ **and** _____ – You are to submit to your parents because of who God is, not because your parents are perfect.
3. **How are we to obey? In** _____ **Things** (κατά πάντα – kata panta)
- This is to be understood as to obey in every detail. We are not given the option of picking and choosing which commands we want to obey, and we are not given the option of picking how much of the command to obey.
- Whether it is cleaning your room, or telling you “No” when you wanted “Yes.” No matter how difficult it may be, you are to obey everything commanded completely. When are we not to obey? When a command **clearly** goes against the Word of God. (Acts 5:29)

C. THE REASON WHY: FOR THIS IS WELL _____ TO THE _____.

1. **This tells us some very important things that we need to know about God and who He is:**
 - a. **God** _____ **about you** – God is interested in you. God is not distant and disconnected from His creation, but takes a personal interest to ensure that you know how you can live in a way that will please Him.
 - b. **God** _____ **what you do** – There is nothing that God does not know, He sees everything everywhere every second. Your obedience to your parents or disobedience has God's attention all the time.
 - c. **You can** _____ **God right now** – We don't have to wait to get to heaven to please God as we ought to, we can please Him today at this very moment. But Just as we can live in a way that pleases God by obeying our parents, we can also be very displeasing to God by disobeying our parents.
 - d. **God wants you to please Him by obeying Him in** _____ **things** – God tells us that to be pleasing to Him we must choose to obey our parents in every detail of what we are told to do.
 - e. **You are** _____ **to please God** – Who is the Lord? He is our Creator (Col. 1:16) which means that He is our owner, and He is our Savior who purchased us with His blood.
2. **The** _____ **: The** _____. The focus is to please God, not yourselves.
 - a. **Our focus must be to** _____ **the Lord** – Who are you seeking to please, yourself or the Lord? Your obedience or disobedience to your parents will answer this question. Parents, are you seeking to lead your children by your example as you obediently submit to the authorities God has placed over you?
 - b. **Children or young people, obey your parents because of the** _____ – No matter how smart you are, no matter how difficult what you are told to do might be (and it can be difficult!), you are to obey because of who the Lord is, not necessarily because of what your parents are (smart, good looking, etc.). Jesus submitted to His parents...

CONCLUSION

1. **Children are a blessing from the Lord and they bring with them a great responsibility before the Lord.** Parents are you actively leading your children to be God focused or self centered? Your impact on your children is greater than anything or anyone else's.
2. **Children or young people, are you living in a way that pleases the Lord by obeying your parents in every detail?** Are you purposing in your heart to do this? This is a choice that you must make on a daily, second by second basis, and it can be done. You have an opportunity every day to please your Creator and Savior! What a privilege!