

# *God's Grace In US*

**Ephesians 6:1-4 (Part One)**

**Colossians 3:20,21**

**Children and Parents**

***'Under the Influence'***

The sum total, and totally sufficient, NT teaching on parenting and 'childrening'!

Children and Parents “Under the Influence” – Eph 6:1-4

## **Be En-couraged!** (filled with courage & faith!)

- Joshua 1:5-9; II Pet 1:3-4

Be strong and courageous: God has given us all we need for godly parenting and ‘childrening’ – through *the knowledge of Him and His precious and very great promises.*

- Note what He has already supplied us with:
  - His glorious grace alive and working within,
  - His very own Spirit of wisdom and holiness, and
  - His inspired, inerrant and living Word.
- Matt 7:7-11  
Our Father in heaven does not withhold from us any good thing...

Children and Parents “Under the Influence” – Eph 6:1-4

**Be Encouraged!** (filled with courage & faith!)

**Sons & Daughters ‘Under the Influence’**

- Sons & daughters
  - Generic term for *offspring* (not infants / toddlers)
  - Old enough to receive, understand and respond to God’s command thru Paul’s apostolic words *and* their OT foundation without ‘dumbing down.’
  - They have not yet established an adult-adult relationship with parents (see 5:31)...
  - Eph 6:1-3 & Col 3:30 are not given to parents, but to sons and daughters!

Children and Parents “Under the Influence” – Eph 6:1-4

**Be Encouraged!** (filled with courage & faith!)

## **Sons & Daughters ‘Under the Influence’**

- Sons & daughters
- Obey parents
  - *Obey = to listen/hear + under*  
i.e. to place yourself under the instruction & direction of another person
  - Conscious, volitional, intentional listening with a heart that desires to comply – this involves an inner attitude graciously granted by God!  
See [Phil 2:12,13](#)
  - Persistent, stubborn disobedience = a sign of God’s judgment (see Rom 1:30; II Tim 3:1-3)

Children and Parents “Under the Influence” – Eph 6:1-4

**Be Encouraged!** (filled with courage & faith!)

**Sons & Daughters ‘Under the Influence’**

- Sons & daughters
- Obey parents
- Honor parents
  - *honor* - root idea: price, value, worth
  - To honor someone is to recognize their worth or value by holding them in high esteem, treating them with respect, and speaking well of them.
  - The highest form of honor is willing, joyous obedience!
  - We never ‘outgrow’ this command!

Children and Parents “Under the Influence” – Eph 6:1-4

**Be Encouraged!** (filled with courage & faith!)

**Sons & Daughters ‘Under the Influence’**

- Sons & daughters
- Obey parents
- Honor parents
- But why?
  - It is ‘right’ – because God says so! (**vs. 1**)
  - It pleases God!! (**Col 3:20**)
  - It’s one of the ‘Ten(der) Commandments, graciously given for my good ‘that it may go well with you.’... (**vs. 2-3**)

Children and Parents “Under the Influence” – Eph 6:1-4

**Be Encouraged!** (filled with courage & faith!)

**Sons & Daughters ‘Under the Influence’**

**For Personal Reflection**

- *There are limits to a son/daughter’s obedience. What to do if you are told to do something wrong or forbidden from doing something right? What about adult children living at home?*
- *How to honor a less than honorable (or perhaps even despicable) parent.*
- *Parents take note: the best encouragement for your children to obey and honor you is your own life-style of obeying and honoring God!*