

LIVING WITH PARENTS THAT ARGUE...PART I

Focus Text: Exodus 20:12

INTRODUCTION

Living with parents who fight constantly can cause emotional damage. The continuous yelling and screaming can create an environment of negativity, in which one may learn to only communicate to others in the same manner. The purpose of this lesson is to learn to deal with such negativity without becoming a victim of it, while always maintaining respect for your parents.

Tool #1 – Always Respect Your Parents

1. What is special about this Exodus 20:12? Ephesians 6:2
2. What is the benefit of respecting your parents? Deuteronomy 5:16

Tools #2 - Never take sides

Even though it is hard not to take sides, one must remember that there are circumstances that may not be clear as children. There are some things that may not become clear until one is older. On the other hand, some things will never become clear. Therefore, refraining from taking sides is critical. It may affect the strength of the relationships that you develop with one or both of your parents.

Tool #3 – Pray for your parents and your sanity

3. What 2 roles/characteristics should you possess as a saved child? James 5:16
4. What is the condition of obtaining perfect peace? Isaiah 26:3

Tool #4 – Demonstrate God's love to your parents through your actions. Remember that they may have baggage of their own.

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You must remember that your parent's attitudes and actions may have been shaped by their previous experiences, good but also bad. They may not even recognize that a problem exists. Therefore, you play a vital role in showing the love of God to them. This includes the following: forgiving them for their actions, complimenting them whenever possible, thanking them when appropriate, making time for them to laugh, etc.

5. How important is love? I Corinthians 13: 1-13
6. What is a merry heart compared to? Proverbs 17:22
7. What does a merry heart do for your appearance? Proverbs 15:13
8. How powerful is love? Proverbs 10:12