

# Parenthood

## Lesson 13

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### Infancy to Childhood (0–5 Years Old)

#### INTRODUCTION: “PHASES OF PARENTHOOD”

##### 1. Review

- a. Christianity is inherently familial
- b. We want our relationships with our children to image for the world our relationship with God
- c. Our goals for our children
  - i. Ages 0–5 – training them to be people under authority
  - ii. Ages 6–12 – helping them grow in character
- d. How we often instinctively attempt this
- e. Why this approach falls short

##### 2. Preview

- a. Lots of what we will be talking about over the next few weeks is in the area of wisdom.
- b. You must be unified in parenting goals and decisions.
- c. Call to men!
- d. Call to women!
- e. Be committed to biblical parenting—with room for grace and wisdom.

#### SCHEDULING

##### 1. Eating

##### 2. Sleeping



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### BENEVOLENT AUTHORITY

“Children, obey your parents in the Lord, because this is right. 2 **Honor your father and mother**, which is the first commandment with a promise, 3 **so that it may go well with you and that you may have a long life in the land**” (Eph. 6:1–3).

Equilibrium and Disequilibrium

### FAMILY WORSHIP

1. General Thoughts
2. Bible
3. Singing
4. Prayer

### CORPORATE WORSHIP

1. Infants
2. The value of having children with us in corporate worship
3. 3-year-olds
4. 4-year-olds and up



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### COMMON QUESTIONS ABOUT HEART-CENTERED PARENTING

1. How can I expect obedience from the heart? After all, if my children aren't Christians, then they can't keep the law.
2. Do I do this every time they disobey?
3. This is hard work, and I'm seeing little fruit; can you encourage me?

### PREPARATION FOR NEXT LESSON:

- Read "Evangelizing Our Children" by E. Calvin Beisner at [ligonier.org/learn/articles/evangelizing-our-children](http://ligonier.org/learn/articles/evangelizing-our-children)
- Read "Questions for Discerning a Child's Profession of Faith" by Jill Nelson at [truth78.org/blog/post/questions-for-discerning-a-childs-profession-of-faith](http://truth78.org/blog/post/questions-for-discerning-a-childs-profession-of-faith)