

I. Instructions for children

- A. Children are to obey their parents

“Children, obey your parents in everything, for this pleases the Lord.” (Colossians 3:20)

- B. Children are to honor their parents

“Honor your father and your mothers, so that you may live along in the land the Lord your God is giving you.” (Exodus 20:12)

- C. Children who obey God’s instructions will be blessed

II. Instructions for fathers

- A. Do not provoke your children to anger

“Fathers do not embitter your children, or they will become discouraged.” (Colossians 3:21)

- B. Lead them through loving discipline

“He who spares the rod hates his son, but he who loves him is careful to discipline him.” (Proverbs 13:24)

- C. Lead them through Godly instruction

III. Instructions for those who serve under the authority of another

- A. We should have respect for those in authority

“Consider your masters worthy of full respect.” (I Timothy 6:1)

- B. We should serve them sincerely

- C. We should obey them as we obey Christ

“Slaves, obey your earthly masters in everything; and do it, not only when their eye is on you and to win their favor, but with sincerity of heart and reverence for the Lord.” (Colossians 3:22)

- D. We should serve them wholeheartedly

“Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for men.” (Colossians 3:23)

- E. We should serve them as if we were serving God

- F. We can expect a reward from God

IV. Instructions for those in authority over others

- A. We should treat them as we want to be treated

“Masters, provide your slaves with what is right and fair, because you know that you also have a Master in heaven.”
(Colossians 4:1)

- B. We should not use threats to control
- C. We should lead in submission to Christ