

## Intro: My Character as a Parent

1. What commands are given to children in both the Old & New Testaments? (**Prov 23.22; 30.17; 20.20; Matt 15.4; Ex 20.12; Lev 20.9; Eph 6.1-3; Col 3.20**)
2. What assumption lies behind these commands to children to listen to, obey, and respect their parents? Is it typical that children will take on the character and beliefs of their parents? (**II Tim 1.5; Jno 8.39b, 42, 44**)
3. Jesus said God, the Father guided His works (**Jno 5.19, 30**), and that His children should be like Him (**Jno 8.42**). Should men follow God's pattern of Fatherhood (**Mt 23.9**)?
4. How does Paul describe his fatherly behavior among the Thessalonians (**I Thes 2.11**)? Does this match the typical tough-guy Dad image? What specific commands are given to godly fathers? (**Eph 6.4; Col 3.21; Heb 12.7, 10; Prov 13.24; Deut 6.6-9; 20ff; Prov 1.8; 22.6**)

## THE FATHER KNOWS BEST

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5. How is the role and character of mothers used to teach Bible principles? **(Is 66.13; Ps 131.2; Is 49.14-16; Jer 31.15; Rom 16.13; Mat 23.37; Gal 4.26, 27; I Thess 2.7-9)**
  
6. What are the Bible's instructions and examples for godly mothers? **(Prov 31.15, 21, 27, 28; I Tim 2.15; Tit 2.4-5; I Tim 5.14-16)**
  
7. Are mothers also to teach God's truth to their children? **(Prov 1.8; 6.20; 30.17; 31.1; II Tim 1.5)**
  
8. Should we be setting goals for our children? **(I Sam 1.11; III Jno 1.4; Prov 19.18)**
  
9. What is the penalty for those who lead children astray from God? **(Matt 18.6)**
  
10. Should our goals for our children be expressed in daily decisions for them when they are small (that is, within our control more than ever)? **(Prov 22.6)**
  
11. Give examples of ordinary decisions we make for our children, or that they observe in us, that are expressions of our goals (expressed in priority-setting).