

## Introduction: God's Dream for Your Child

1. You must understand your child's two primary needs are for \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.

- Two questions kids are always asking:

1. Do you \_\_\_\_\_ me?
2. Where are the \_\_\_\_\_?

- The Perfect Parent

Genesis 1:27-29; 2:15-17

2. You must recognize your child's primary responsibility is to learn \_\_\_\_\_.

*<sup>1</sup>Children, it is your Christian duty to obey your parents, for this is the right thing to do. <sup>2</sup>"Respect your father and mother" is the first commandment that has a promise added: <sup>3</sup>"so that all may go well with you, and you may live a long time in the land."*

Ephesians 6:1-3 (GNT)

- Defining obedience: Obedience is teaching your child to come \_\_\_\_\_ the hearing of your voice.

*Whoever has My commands and keeps them, is the one who loves Me. The one who loves Me will be loved by My Father, and I too will love them and show Myself to them.*

John 14:21 (NIV)

3. You must remember, obedience is a \_\_\_\_\_.

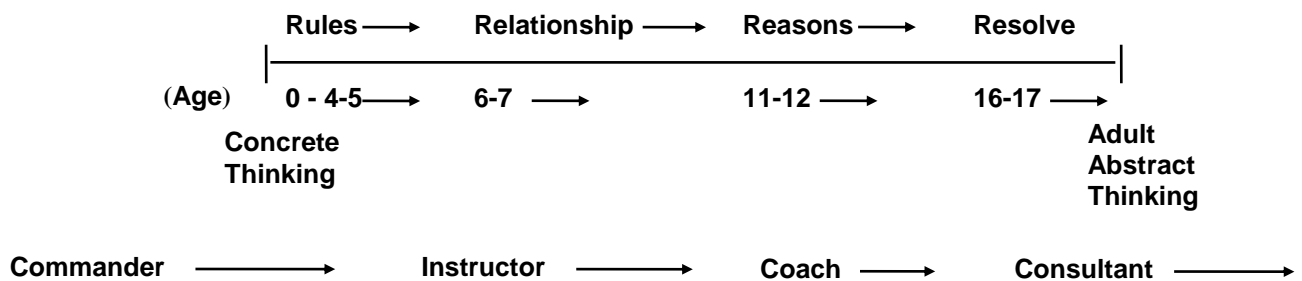
*Although He was a Son, He learned obedience from the things which He suffered.*

Hebrews 5:8 (NASB)

*And Jesus grew in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and man.*

Luke 2:52 (NIV)

- Spiritual formation and mental development - \*Chart by Lawrence Kohlberg



- Knowledge axiom: Knowledge + Love + Wisdom = \_\_\_\_\_
1. Principle of readiness - Only teach children what they are mentally and emotionally capable of learning.
  2. Principle of responsibility - Never habitually do for your children what they can do for themselves.

*Parents, do not treat your children in such a way as to make them angry. Instead, raise them with Christian discipline and instruction.*

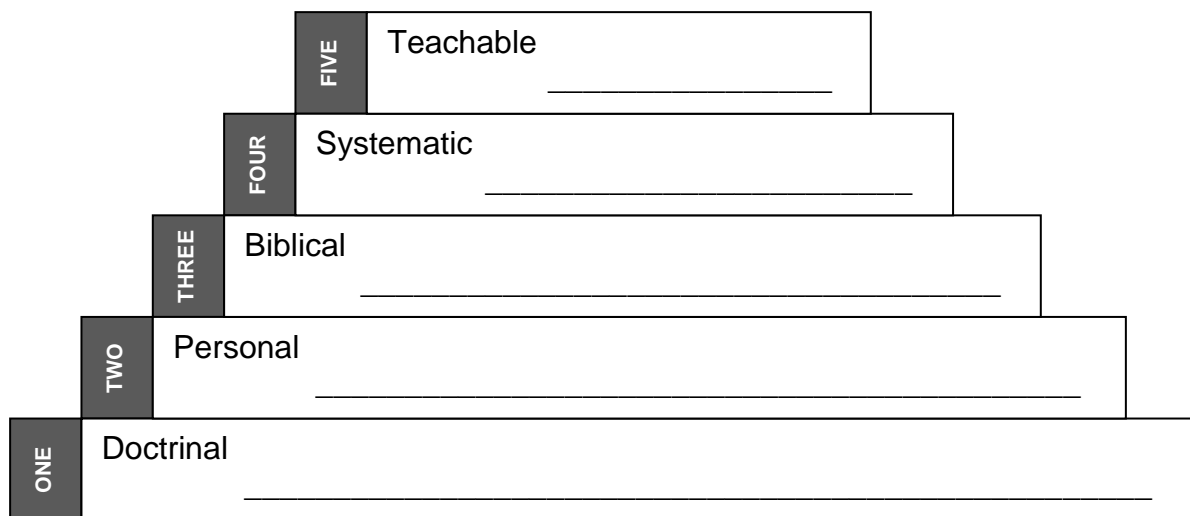
Ephesians 6:4 (GNT)

4. You must commit to providing the necessary \_\_\_\_\_ for your child to learn obedience.

*<sup>4</sup>Hear, O Israel! The LORD is our God, the LORD is one! <sup>5</sup>And you shall love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might. <sup>6</sup>These words, which I am commanding you today, shall be on your heart. <sup>7</sup>You shall teach them diligently to your sons and shall talk of them when you sit in your house and when you walk by the way and when you lie down and when you rise up. <sup>8</sup>You shall bind them as a sign on your hand and they shall be as frontals on your forehead. <sup>9</sup>You shall write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates.*

Deuteronomy 6:4-9 (NASB)

- Five resources your children need from you



- A word picture = “The Journey of Life”

5. Obedience is achieved when your child has \_\_\_\_\_  
his/her primary love, submission, and dependency from \_\_\_\_\_  
to \_\_\_\_\_.

- Three characteristics of righteous children

1. They make wise \_\_\_\_\_. Philippians 1:9-11

2. They keep their \_\_\_\_\_. Proverbs 20:6

3. They care genuinely for \_\_\_\_\_. John 15:13

### Discussion Questions:

1. What are your child's greatest needs?
2. What is your child's greatest responsibility? Discuss what that means and what that involves.
3. What is your role as a parent in helping your child learn obedience? Where is that going well? Where do you need help?
4. What was specifically helpful to you from this message? What step could you take to help your child reach his/her full potential?