

# { Dinnertime Devotionals }



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**Weekly Theme:** Listening to Parents

**Verse #1:** Ephesians 6:1-3

(I use the ESV Bible for these devotionals. Questions are based on that text.)

**All Ages Discussion Starter:** Discuss the meaning of the word honor. What does it look and sound like? How do kids show honor to parents? How to parents show honor to their kids? In what practical and spiritual ways could honoring parents lead to longer life?

**Verse #2:** Ephesians 3:20-21

**Jr. Discussion Starter:** Can you think of a way that you could obey someone but not show them the respect that they deserve? Can you demonstrate or explain how to show obedience with respect?

**Discussion Starter:** Can you think of an example in the Bible where a child was disobedient to their parents and it wound up costing them either physically, emotionally or spiritually? What was the context of these verses?

**Verse #3:** Proverbs 1:8-9

**Jr. Discussion Starter:** What do these words mean - forsake, graceful, garland, pendant. Who wrote the book of Proverbs? (Hint—read Proverbs 1:1). What do you know about him? Would he be a good person to listen to?

**Discussion Starter:** Who wrote Proverbs? What was his purpose in writing the text? Go back and look at verses 1– 7 of Proverbs 1. Does this change your perspective on the passage we read today? Listen to your parents they are smart!

**Verse #4:** Proverbs 30:17

**All Age Discussion Starter:** So far all of our verses have been about blessings from listening to your parents. Isn't it reasonable to expect consequences for not listening. What types of consequences happen in your home when you don't listen to the instruction of your parents? And what tends to happen when you do listen to the guidance of your parents?

**Verse #5:** Proverbs 22:6

**Jr. Discussion Starter:** What does the phrase "train up" mean? What does that look and sound like? Can you name some ways that your parents have been training you up?

**Discussion Starter:** For the teens...how hard do you think it is to "train up" a child? Is it an ongoing process that parents pray and work at, or is it just something they do because it makes them happy to 'ruin your life?'