



He Was Obedient

The Importance of Discipline and Authority

Every year his parents went to Jerusalem for the Feast of the Passover. When he was twelve years old, they went up to the Feast, according to the custom. After the Feast was over, while his parents were returning home, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem, but they were unaware of it. Thinking he was in their company, they traveled on for a day. Then they began looking for him among their relatives and friends. When they did not find him, they went back to Jerusalem to look for him. After three days they found him in the temple courts, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. Everyone who heard him was amazed at his understanding and his answers. When his parents saw him, they were astonished. His mother said to him, "Son, why have you treated us like this? Your father and I have been anxiously searching for you."

"Why were you searching for me?" he asked. "Didn't you know I had to be in my Father's house?" But they did not understand what he was saying to them.

Then he went down to Nazareth with them and was obedient to them. But his mother treasured all these things in her heart. And Jesus grew in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and men. —Luke 2:41–52

The importance of authenticity in discipline

Every year his parents went to Jerusalem for the Feast of the Passover.

The importance of consistency

Every year his parents went to Jerusalem for the Feast of the Passover.

The importance of understanding age/stage

When he was twelve years old, they went up to the Feast, according to the custom.

The importance of understanding the difference between disobedience and irresponsibility

When his parents saw him, they were astonished. His mother said to him, "Son, why have you treated us like this? Your father and I have been anxiously searching for you."

The importance of obeying authority, even if parents don't fully understand

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The importance of seeking to understand our children in the process of discipline

Then he went down to Nazareth with them and was obedient to them. But his mother treasured all these things in her heart.

The importance of understanding positions of authority

Then he went down to Nazareth with them and was obedient to them. But his mother treasured all these things in her heart.

Seeing discipline as a means to maturity

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

Helpful verses regarding discipline

Discipline has a long-term goal in mind.

Discipline your son, and he will give you peace; he will bring delight to your soul. —Proverbs 29:17

Discipline suggests you have more wisdom.

The evil deeds of a wicked man ensnare him; the cords of his sin hold him fast. He will die for lack of discipline, led astray by his own great folly. —Proverbs 5:22–23

Discipline requires consistency.

No discipline seems pleasant at the time, but painful. Later on, however, it produces a harvest of righteousness and peace for those who have been trained by it. —Hebrews 12:11

Discipline seeks formation over friendship.

He who spares the rod hates his son, but he who loves him is careful to discipline him. —Proverbs 12 :24

Discipline is a saving hope.

Discipline your son, for in that there is hope; do not be a willing party to his death. —Proverbs 19:18

Discipline is an act of obedience.

Do not withhold discipline from a child; if you punish him with the rod, he will not die. —Proverbs 23:13

Discipline is an expression of love.

My son, do not despise the LORD's discipline and do not resent his rebuke, because the LORD disciplines those he loves, as a father the son he delights in. —Proverbs 3:11–12

Discipline has bottom lines.

If a man has a stubborn and rebellious son who does not obey his father and mother and will not listen to them when they discipline him, his father and mother shall take hold of him and bring him to the elders at the gate of his town. —Deuteronomy 21:18

Discipline involves truth and grace.

Jesus straightened up and asked her, "Woman, where are they? Has no one condemned you?"

"No one, sir," she said.

"Then neither do I condemn you," Jesus declared. "Go now and leave your life of sin." —John 8:10–11