When Holy Wedlock Becomes Unholy Deadlock

Ralph Walker · Ephesians 6:1–4 · Series: **Meeting with Ralph Walker**

INTRODUCTION

- Less than 25% of the homes in America have a father, a mother, and children together residing under one roof.
- It is its own civilization. And a divorce rips it apart. And no one feels that more acutely than the children.
- What do parents owe children and what do children owe parents? How can we have that balance in life that will create the stability?

1 Parents Owe Their Children Provision

1 Timothy 5:8; Deuteronomy 6; Ephesians 4:28

- If anyone does not provide for his own, and especially for those of his household, he has denied the faith and is worse than an unbeliever.
- We don't just give them provisions that are physical in nature, but we give them provisions of character.
- It's important to teach our children the value of hard work.
- Let him who stole steal no longer, but rather let him labor. Labor with his hands.
- We all fail. And it isn't failing that makes us failures. It is in our improper attitude toward failure.
- Teaching them the value of cooperation, how to work with others, how to give in, and to let somebody else go first.

2 Parents Owe Their Children Training in Spiritual Things

Ephesians 6:4; Proverbs 22:6; Colossians 3:21

- Do not provoke your children to anger. But bring them up in the discipline and instruction of the Lord.
- Train up a child in the way he should go, even when he is old, he will not depart from it.
- Take them off the proper tracks and they'll find their own.
- It is being consciously involved in the lives of our children on an ongoing basis to put them on the tracks they should run in.
- Train them up. Don't yell them up.
- Training is more than teaching. Teaching is just giving them the information. Training is teaching them how to use it.

3 Children Owe Parents Obedience

Ephesians 6:1; Romans 1:29–30; Hebrews 5:8

- Obedience is submitting yourself to a higher authority. Whether you agree with it or disagree with it.
- Children, obey your parents in the Lord.

- Disobedient to parents. Folks, it is a major factor in the disintegration of civilization.
- He learned obedience from the things which he suffered.
- When parental authority is expressed with wisdom, it makes obedience natural. When you're wise, and when parental authority is expressed in love, it makes obedience pleasant.

4 Children Owe Parents Honor

Ephesians 6:2; Mark 7:9–13

- Honor your father and your mother.
- If you put your children first, they will too.
- Children owe their parents honor by providing for them when the time comes to do that.
- You do that by demonstrating honor to your parents so that your children will learn what it means to honor their parents.

MY NOTES