

The Perfect Example

I. His Parents (39-44)

Jesus' parents try to do right before God

Parents: Obey God.

Don't provoke and do teach your children about God. (Eph. 6:4)

II. His Childhood (45-50)

Jesus does right before God

Children: Learn about God and obey God.

Obey and honor your parents. (Eph. 6:1-2)

III. His Development (51-52)

The righteousness of Jesus increases.

Parents and children: Develop increasing righteousness through obedience.

Jesus has become the righteousness we need, through faith. (2 Cor. 5:21; Philip. 3:9)

Application Questions - These questions are provided for your further study and application of the subject of today's message. Thoughtfully writing out answers to these questions will help drive home the point. They are designed to be discussed in your home, with other believers, and in a Life Group, for even more benefit.

1. Would you say you were raised in a Christian home? What were the strengths, and what were the weaknesses, in establishing you in the faith?
2. Read Deuteronomy 4:5-10 What did Moses tell the people obedience would be to them? What would be the result of their obedience? What purpose were they given for teaching this to their children?

3. Read Deuteronomy 6:4-15. What were the Israelites being told to do? What would be the principle that applies to today? Is it practiced in your home? Could you implement something to better carry out this principle? What is the failure they were warned they could do, and what circumstances could lead to it? (See also 8:11-14) What were the consequences they were warned would happen?

What might the failure warned against above look like in your home?

4. Read Deuteronomy 10:12-21 and 11:13-28. What does God say He requires of His people? Does God still require this of the New Testament Christian? Explain.

What blessings for obedience and curses for disobedience are given? (See also Deut. 28.) Does God still bless obedience and punish disobedience? How does the grace of God in Christ factor in? How can parents & adults teach obedience without reducing Christianity to law or moral/religious code?

5. What is the main application of this study, and/or the sermon and its passages, for you?