

## Teen Topics

### Understanding Our Parents (Part 3)

In our previous lesson, we discussed the importance of showing honor and obedience at home. At this point, some of you may be thinking, "I can work on these things, but the fact remains that my parents still drive me crazy!" With that in mind, let's consider a few biblical principles that will help.

#### ***Bible Verses on Strengthening Relationships***

Frustrations can result from being around anyone too long! But they do not have to ruin our relationships. Consider what these verses say regarding frustrations we may have:

- > Matt. 7:1-5 – Don't be overly critical, we all have faults.
- > Heb. 12:15 – Don't let bitterness build up/add more trouble.
- > II Cor. 13:11 – Aim for restoration and live in peace.
- > Rom. 12:18; 14:19 – Be intentional about making peace.

#### ***Doing Your Part to Maintain Harmony***

If you have frustrations toward your parents that are clearly hurting the relationship, take an honest look at the following:

- > Your parents are not perfect, nor will they ever be! You must embrace them for who they are, quirks and all! Instead of being overly critical about their clothes, style, jokes (etc.) that you may think are goofy, focus on their positive traits.
- > Try having a good conversation with your parents! Express any concerns or issues you have with your parents and/or their parenting style. Open and honest conversations can do wonders for a relationship.
- > Don't add to the problem. If you think your parents nag you about your messy room, clothing choices, grades, (etc.), realize there may be truth to what they say and listen!

When frustration gets blown out of proportion, the conflict that results is never good! Your parents want peace in the home just as much as you do! Do your part in making peace!

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