

Teen Topics

Understanding Our Parents (Part 4)

Our previous lesson discussed how a correct perspective of our parents can help strengthen the relationship we have with them. Today, let's consider how being actively involved in our parents' lives will help strengthen the relationship as well. It is important to understand that our parents not only want us to be involved, but they need us to be involved!

Bible Verses on Showing Support

Consider the principles found in these verses that can apply to how we should be involved in the life of our parents:

- > **Gal. 6:2** – Help carry their burdens/be supportive.
- > **Eph. 6:18** – Take time and pray for our parents.
- > **James 1:19** – Be quick to listen to our parents.
- > **1 Cor. 13:11** – Show maturity/begin acting like an adult.

Becoming a Part of Your Family

The relationship with our parents is often hindered because we aren't intentionally developing it. Consider these points:

- > Realize your parents need you. They have a lot on their plates, but you can lift the burden. Is your attitude and level of cooperation making things easier or harder on them? Be supportive, and they will greatly appreciate it!
- > Spend time with your parents. If life is too busy to spend time with your parents, adjust your schedule (**Eph. 5:15-16**)! Eating meals together, running errands, playing sports or games (etc.) are great ways to get closer to your parents.
- > Be involved around the house. Vacuum, do laundry, put away dishes (etc.). Surprise your parents by doing a chore they hate. Your parents will appreciate your sense of responsibility, and may just offer you more freedom as a result.

In a typical day, how much time do you set aside for your parents? Do you need to put forth more effort to be involved?