

Teen Topics

Understanding Our Parents (Intro)

Our attitudes toward our parents can often be like a rollercoaster. One day we love them and think they are the greatest people in the world, and the next day we are frustrated at them thinking they are impossible to live with. We may dearly love our parents, yet at times we know the relationship we have with them is not as good as it can be!

Thoughts about Mom and Dad

Have you ever had these thoughts toward your parents:

- > My parents treat me like I'm still a child!
- > My parents are so old school it's embarrassing!
- > My parents' rules are way too strict!
- > My parents are hard to talk to; they don't listen to me!

If these thoughts sound familiar to you, then you are not alone. Many teens have these kinds of thoughts, but that does not mean such thoughts should be embraced or accepted as normal. God clearly does not intend for there to be such frustrations within our families. Note what these verses say about the relationship between parents and teens:

- > **Prov. 17:6** – Parents are a teenager's pride.
- > **Psalm 127:3-5** – Children are a blessing from the Lord.
- > **Prov. 6:20-23** – Parents can offer direction and protection, and they can be good for meaningful conversations.

God's Design for the Family

God has a high view of the family. Just as He intends a husband and wife to be a blessing to each other, He also intends parents and teens to be a blessing to each other! The relationship we have with our parents does not have to be a negative thing. Through this study, we will attempt to better understand our parents in hopes that we will better see them for who they are and learn how we can better relate to them!