

Why should I honor and obey?

“I will honor and obey my parents because God uses them to protect and guide me.”

What does God say?

“Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right.”

Ephesians 6:1 (ESV)

Teaching Objectives for use in evaluations

Students will learn:

1. God is the one who tells children to obey their parents.
2. God's plan is for parents to **protect and guide** their children.

Beginning with Week 4, give students the take-home obedience handout (first handout in supplements). You can print one side or both sides for each week.

- They can either draw a picture or use the space to write more about what they did.
- If they return them, give them the handout sticker of Oscar lying down.
- Either hang the pictures up or send them home with the kids.

Fall 2023 CT: 'I Will Obey' Junior Version

Why should I honor and obey?

"I will honor and obey my parents because God uses them to protect and guide me."

What does God say? Ephesians 6:1 (ESV):

"Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right."

2023 Fall

OBEDIENCE

September 5 - December 2

Closed:

Aug 31-Sep 4 (Labor day Break)

Oct. 31 (Halloween)

Nov. 22 (Winter Staff Training)

Nov 22-24: (Thanksgiving Break)

September 2023						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

October 2023						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
5	1	2	3	4	5	6
6	8	9	10	11	12	13
7	15	16	17	18	19	20
8	22	23	24	25	26	27
9	29	30	31			

November 2023						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
9			1	2	3	4
10	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
11b	19	20	21	22	23	24
12	26	27	28	29	30	

Main Points Each Week:

Weeks 1:intro I will honor and obey my parents because God uses them to protect and guide me.

Weeks 2-3: Learning to obey those who love me will keep me safe.

Weeks 4-6: I will be quick to obey my parents because they know what's best for me.

Weeks 7-9: I will obey my parents when they can see what I'm doing and when they can't.

Weeks 10-12: Obeying my parents makes them happy and can bring special rewards.

Good Dog, Bad Dog

Week 2: [Handout: Oscar/Dexter coloring page](#) / Add pictures to wall.

Week 3: [Handout: Maze](#)

A Big Disappointment

Week 4: Bring a pair of [roller skates](#) or [blades](#) to show / [Obedience handouts](#) / Add Pictures to wall

Week 5: Have [reward stickers printed](#) / [Obey Song](#): <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8ztyQ3CkmyI>

Week 6: Have [IF-THEN Game stickers](#) printed (directions in lesson)

When No One Is Watching

Week 7: Add to wall.

Week 8: [Oscar "which dog is different" handout](#)

Week 9: Be prepared with props to demonstrate frustration ([shoe with ties and/or something to draw on](#))

A Special Treat

Week 10: Add pictures to wall.

Week 11: [Dexter "which dog is different" handout](#)

Week 11b:

Week 12: [Oscar coloring page](#)

Fall 2023 CT: 'I Will Obey' Junior Version

Why should I honor and obey?

"I will honor and obey my parents because God uses them to protect and guide me."

What does God say? Ephesians 6:1 (ESV):

"Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right."

Week 1: Sep 5-9 (No story-Monday classes miss intro)

1. **Intro:** How many of you have a dog?
 - a. Did you get him when he was a puppy?
 - b. Was he well-trained and obedient when you got him?
 - c. What would happen if you didn't train him?

2. **This season we're going to be learning about the importance of obeying parents.**
 - a. What does it mean to obey your parents?
 - i. *Obedience is doing what your parents tell you to do - whether you want to or not!*
 - ii. *Once you understand what they told you to do, and know it is the right thing to do, you do it to the best of your ability.*

3. **Teach and repeat the declaration, verse and sign language several times.**

4. **Lesson 1: I will honor and obey my parents because God uses them to protect and guide me.**
 - a. What reasons does our declaration give us for obeying parents?
 - i. *God uses them to protect you.*
 1. *Parents know what is dangerous and what is safe for you. No one loves you as much as your parents (except for God!). When you love someone, you want to take good care of them.*
 - ii. *God uses them to guide you.*
 1. *Parents can teach you how to make good choices. That's what a guide does. They teach you things you need to know when you grow up - like how to choose good friends and how to solve problems. They build good character into your life - like thankfulness, kindness, serving others and self-discipline.*
 - b. Why do you think God specifically says children are to obey their parents? Why doesn't He say to obey everybody who tells them to do something?
 - i. *Not everybody wants what's best for you. Some people pretend to be your friend or to care about you, but they are actually thinking about themselves.*
 - ii. *God has given every parent a special love for their own children. No one can love every child in the world with that special kind of love! So God wisely decided to give that special love to parents so they can take good care of the children in their own family.*

5. **Application:** This season, you will learn how important it is to obey your parents from a story about a girl named Bella and her dog, Oscar.

I will honor and obey my parents because God uses them to protect and guide me.

Planning Notes:

Fall 2023 CT: 'I Will Obey' Junior Version

Why should I honor and obey?

"I will honor and obey my parents because God uses them to protect and guide me."

What does God say? Ephesians 6:1 (ESV):

"Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right."

Week 2: Sep 11-16

1. **Practice declaration and verse.** (Remember: Monday Week 1 kids missed intro)
2. **Lead-in:** What are the two reasons God wants children to obey their parents?
 - a. *God uses them to protect you.*
 - i. *Parents know what is dangerous and what is safe for you. No one loves you as much as your parents. They want what's best for you.*
 - ii. *God uses them to guide you. Parents can teach you how to make good choices. That's what a guide does.*
3. **Lesson 2: Learning to obey those who love me will keep me safe.**
4. **Listen to Chapter 1 and show pictures:** *Good Dog, Bad Dog*
5. **Questions (Choose one or more that best fits your class)**
 - a. Why does Dad ask Bella if she is sure she wants that puppy?
 - i. *He is full of energy and will need lots of training; "a disobedient dog gets into trouble, and we don't want that."*
 - b. What did Oscar do when Bella opened the door to let Nathan in?
 - i. *He zoomed out into the yard.*
 - c. What was Dexter doing while Oscar was running around the yard?
 - i. *Sitting quietly by Nathan*
 - d. Why is Bella worried when Nathan tells Dexter he can go play?
 - i. *She thinks both dogs will run away now.*
 - e. Why wasn't Nathan worried when he let Dexter go play?
 - i. *He had trained Dexter to come as soon as he was called.*
 - f. What does Bella tell Oscar after she catches him?
 - i. *"We're starting obedience training tomorrow!"*
6. **What do you think?**
 - a. What do you think might have happened to the dogs if Dexter did not come when Nathan called him?

Dismissal: review the verse and say the main point together:

Learning to obey those who love me will keep me safe.

Handout: Oscar & Dexter coloring pages

Planning Notes:

Fall 2023 CT: 'I Will Obey' Junior Version

Why should I honor and obey?

"I will honor and obey my parents because God uses them to protect and guide me."

What does God say? Ephesians 6:1 (ESV):

"Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right."

Week 3: Sep 18-23

1. **Practice declaration & verse**
2. **Lead-in:** (*Show Picture #1*) Do you remember which puppy Bella chose?
3. **Lesson 3: *Learning to obey those who love me will keep me safe.***
4. **Review the story using pictures:** *Good Dog, Bad Dog*
5. **Questions (Choose one or more that best fits your class)**
 - a. What kind of trouble has Oscar gotten into so far?
 - i. *Chewed Bella's shoes, broke lamps, dragged out clean laundry, ran out the door.*
 - b. Why doesn't Dexter need a leash?
 - i. *He knows how to obey and will not run away.*
 - c. When did Nathan start training Dexter?
 - i. *From the time he was a puppy.*
 - d. Why doesn't Oscar want to obey Bella?
 - i. *He's having too much fun!*
 - e. (*Picture #2*) Oscar is having fun disobeying, but does he know how dangerous cars or other dogs can be?
 - i. *No. He's just a puppy. Bella DOES know the dangers, which is why he must learn to obey.*
6. **What do you think?**
 - a. Do you think Oscar will enjoy being trained?
 - i. *Sometimes it's fun and easy to be trained and other times it's very hard. Remember what Dad said. "Disobedient dogs [and kids!] get into trouble, and we don't want that."*

Dismissal: review the verse and sign language; say the main point together:

Learning to obey those who love me will keep me safe.

Handout: Oscar maze

Planning Notes:

Fall 2023 CT: 'I Will Obey' Junior Version

Why should I honor and obey?

"I will honor and obey my parents because God uses them to protect and guide me."

What does God say? Ephesians 6:1 (ESV):

"Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right."

Week 4: Sep 25-30

1. Practice declaration & verse together

2. Lead-in: (Hold up a pair of roller skates or roller blades) What are these?

- a. How many of you can roller skate or rollerblade?
- b. Have you ever been to a roller rink with friends?
- c. Our story today is about going to the roller rink to skate.

3. Lesson 4: *I will be quick to obey my parents because they know what's best for me.*

4. Listen to Chapter 2 : *A Big Disappointment*

5. Questions (Choose one or more that best fits your class)

- a. Why didn't Bella come right away when Mom called?
 - i. *She was teaching Oscar to sit.*
- b. When was Oscar rewarded with a treat?
 - i. *IF he obeyed.*
- c. What special treat did Bella miss because she didn't obey right away?
 - i. *She missed roller skating with her friends.*

6. What do you think?

- a. Do you think Bella was doing anything wrong when her mom called her?
 - i. *No. Training her dog is important. But obeying her mom is more important.*
 - ii. *Mom knew Bella wanted to skate with friends and that they had to be early. Mom knew what was best.*

Dismissal: review the verse and sign language; say the main point together:

I will be quick to obey my parents because they know what's best for me.

Obedience take-home handouts

Planning Notes:

Fall 2023 CT: 'I Will Obey' Junior Version

Why should I honor and obey?

"I will honor and obey my parents because God uses them to protect and guide me."

What does God say? Ephesians 6:1 (ESV):

"Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right."

Week 5: Oct 2-7

1. Practice declaration & verse together

2. Lead-in: *Stickers for returned obedience handouts*

- a. *(Have the Obey Song ready)* This song is going to help us memorize our verse and remember to obey our parents.

3. Lesson 4: *I will be quick to obey my parents because they know what's best for me.*

4. Review Chapter 2 and show pictures: *A Big Disappointment*

5. Questions (Choose one or more that best fits your class)

- a. Why does Bella want to train Oscar?
 - i. *She wants a good dog like Dexter that comes when he is called so he will avoid dangers.*
- b. What kinds of dangers should dogs know about?
 - i. *Cars, traps, porcupines, skunks, hunters... Oscar knows nothing of these things, but Bella does!*
- c. Is Bella being mean to Oscar if she doesn't give a treat when he does not obey?
 - i. *No. She is teaching him that there are rewards IF he obeys.*

6. What do you think?

- a. Is it sometimes fun to disobey your parents?
 - i. *It may be fun for a little while, but then you may get hurt or disciplined later.*
 - ii. *For example: Your mom says, "Wear shoes outside so you won't get stung." But you disobey and you then step on a bee!*

Dismissal: review the verse and sign language; say the main point together:

I will be quick to obey my parents because they know what's best for me.

Planning Notes:

Week 6: Oct 9-14

1. Practice declaration & verse together

Fall 2023 CT: 'I Will Obey' Junior Version

Why should I honor and obey?

"I will honor and obey my parents because God uses them to protect and guide me."

What does God say? Ephesians 6:1 (ESV):

"Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right."

2. Lead-in: Stickers for returned obedience handouts

a. (Show picture #1) Do you remember what Bella tells Oscar when he jumps to get the treat? (*"IF you sit, THEN you get the treat!"*)

3. Lesson 6: I will be quick to obey my parents because they know what's best for me.

4. Story Review & Game

a. (Show picture #3) Bella is sad because she was late to the roller skating rink. She didn't obey right away. Do you remember what Mom told her on the way home?

i. *"IF you obey, THEN you are rewarded. But if you don't, you can miss out on something good."*

b. IF - THEN Game (*Have stickers ready*)

i. We're going to play the IF-THEN Game.

ii. When I call your name, stand up. I will tell you to do something and IF you do it right away, THEN you will get a sticker!

1. *If the group is large or the time is limited, call two students up at a time.*

2. *Give them simple, fun commands: turn around three times; hop on one foot; do a lame dog walk; etc. Make sure they are able to do it!*

5. Play the obey song if time.

Dismissal: review the verse and sign language; say the main point together:

I will be quick to obey my parents because they know what's best for me.

Planning Notes:

Fall 2023 CT: 'I Will Obey' Junior Version

Why should I honor and obey?

"I will honor and obey my parents because God uses them to protect and guide me."

What does God say? Ephesians 6:1 (ESV):

"Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right."

Week 7: Oct 16-21

1. Practice declaration & verse together

2. Lead-in: *Stickers for returned obedience handouts*

- a. Bella is training Oscar to obey. He's obeying when Bella sees him. Do you think he will obey when she's not looking? Let's find out!

3. Lesson 7: *I will obey my parents when they can see what I'm doing and when they can't.*

4. Listen to Chapter 3 and show pictures: *When No One Is Looking*

5. Questions (Choose one or more that best fits your class)

- a. What did Oscar do when Bella was not looking?
 - i. *He ran into the barn!*
- b. Was Bella mean when she said Oscar could not have a treat?
 - i. *No. IF he obeys, THEN he gets a treat.*
- c. What would Oscar think if Bella gave him a treat after he ran into the barn?
 - i. *He would think that running into the barn was good and do it again. She would actually be teaching him to DISobey!*

6. What do you think?

- a. Do you think Mom was being mean by taking away Bella's iPad?
 - i. *No. Bella knew the rule and disobeyed. Mom doesn't want Bella to think she only has to obey when she's looking.*

Dismissal: review the verse and sign language; say the main point together:

I will obey my parents when they can see what I'm doing and when they can't.

Planning Notes:

Fall 2023 CT: 'I Will Obey' Junior Version

Why should I honor and obey?

"I will honor and obey my parents because God uses them to protect and guide me."

What does God say? Ephesians 6:1 (ESV):

"Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right."

Week 8: Oct 23-28

1. Practice declaration & verse together

2. Lead-in: Stickers for returned obedience handouts

- a. How many of you have iPads you like to play on? Bella has an iPad, too. Do you remember what happened to her iPad?
- b. *Mom told her she couldn't use it for a week because she disobeyed.*

3. Lesson 8: *I will obey my parents when they can see what I'm doing and when they can't.*

4. Review the chapter using pictures: *When No One Is Looking*

5. Questions (Choose one or more that best fits your class)

- a. What was Bella's reason for adding 10 more minutes to her time on the iPad?
 - i. *She was trying to get to the next level.*
- b. When Mom asked Bella why she didn't give Oscar his treat today, what did Bella say?
 - i. *"He only obeyed when I was looking, not when I couldn't see him."*
- c. What should Bella have done if she wanted to play an extra 10 minutes?
 - i. *She should have asked her mom! Maybe Mom would have said yes!*

6. What do you think?

- a. Do you think it is ok to ask your parents why you must obey a rule or command?
 - i. *Yes! But always ask in a respectful way. Never be sassy, shout at them, and ask in an angry voice.*
 - ii. *Sometimes they are not able to explain, but other times they will. ALWAYS be respectful!*

7. Obey song if time.

Dismissal: review the verse and sign language; say the main point together:

I will obey my parents when they can see what I'm doing and when they can't.

Oscar "which dog is different" handout

Planning Notes:

Fall 2023 CT: 'I Will Obey' Junior Version

Why should I honor and obey?

"I will honor and obey my parents because God uses them to protect and guide me."

What does God say? Ephesians 6:1 (ESV):

"Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right."

Week 9: Oct 30 (Closed the 31st) Nov 1-4

1. Practice declaration & verse together

2. Lead-in: Stickers for returned obedience handouts

- a. Do you know what it means to be frustrated?
 - i. *Demonstrate by trying to tie a shoe over and over or trying to draw a perfect circle over and over but you aren't getting anywhere.*
- b. Frustration happens when I try again and again but I'm not able to do it correctly.

3. Lesson 9: *I will obey my parents when they can see what I'm doing and when they can't.*

4. Review the chapter using pictures: *When No One Is Looking*

5. Questions (Choose one or more that best fits your class)

- a. Why was Bella frustrated with Oscar?
 - i. *She tried many times to get him to stay when she wasn't looking, but he wasn't obeying.*
- b. Pretend you're Oscar. Why aren't you obeying your owner?
 - i. *Possible answers: distracted by barn noises; too tired to pay attention anymore; just don't want to!; hungry or thirsty; don't understand you need to come when she is turned around...*
- c. Do you think your parents might get frustrated sometimes when you are not obeying?
 - i. *Remember that your parents love you and want what's best for you even when you don't understand why you have to obey sometimes.*

6. What do you think?

- a. If your parents aren't there to watch you, do you think anyone else might be watching you?
 - i. *God is always watching us whether anyone else is watching or not.*
 - ii. *He is always there to help us do what is right. We just need to ask Him!*
 - iii. *Remember: it is God who has told us to obey our parents!*

Dismissal: review the verse and sign language; say the main point together:

I will obey my parents when they can see what I'm doing and when they can't.

Planning Notes:

Fall 2023 CT: 'I Will Obey' Junior Version

Why should I honor and obey?

"I will honor and obey my parents because God uses them to protect and guide me."

What does God say? Ephesians 6:1 (ESV):

"Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right."

Week 10: Nov 6-11

1. Practice declaration & verse together

2. Lead-in: *Stickers for returned obedience handouts*

- a. What is your favorite treat? Today in our story about Oscar and Bella, we're going to hear about two special treats!

3. Lesson 10: ***Obeying my parents makes them happy and can bring special rewards.***

4. Listen to Chapter 4 and show pictures: *A Special Treat*

5. Questions (Choose one or more that best fits your class)

- a. What helped Bella decide not to eat a cookie?
 - i. *She saw Oscar looking up at her and remembered how hard she worked to train him to obey.*
- b. Bella had two chances to disobey when she went to Zoe's. The first was to eat a cookie. What was the second one?
 - i. *She could have gone in to see Zoe's new kitten instead of going home right away.*
- c. Why was Bella sad when she came back home?
 - i. *She saw how sad Zoe was when she told her she couldn't come inside right then.*

6. What do you think?

- a. If you were Bella, do you think you would be able to keep yourself from eating a cookie or going in to see the new kitten?
 - i. *We all need help to obey because it is hard sometimes. Don't forget to pray and ask God to help you to do the right things.*
 - ii. *He is always ready to help us when we are trying to obey His commands!*

Dismissal: review the verse and sign language; say the main point together:

Obeying my parents makes them happy and can bring special rewards.

Planning Notes:

Fall 2023 CT: 'I Will Obey' Junior Version

Why should I honor and obey?

"I will honor and obey my parents because God uses them to protect and guide me."

What does God say? Ephesians 6:1 (ESV):

"Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right."

Week 11: Nov 13-18

1. Practice declaration & verse together

2. Lead-in: *Stickers for returned obedience handouts*

- a. Did you know that when you sing God's word from the Bible that it helps you to remember it and gives you strength to obey it? Maybe Bella sang this song before she went to Zoe's!
- b. *Play the obey song.*

3. Lesson 11: ***Obeying my parents makes them happy and can bring special rewards.***

4. Review the chapter using pictures: *A Special Treat*

5. Questions (Choose one or more that best fits your class)

- a. (*Show picture #2*) Look at Zoe's face. What might Zoe be thinking about Bella?
 - i. *Bella doesn't like me anymore; Bella really doesn't want to meet my new kitten...*
- b. How do you think Bella is feeling as she leaves Zoe's?
 - i. *She's sad because she made her friend feel bad.*
 - ii. *She may be wondering if she should have gone in for just a minute or if Zoe will still want to be her friend.*
- c. Who is Bella making happy by choosing to go right home?
 - i. *Her mom AND God! Remember that it's God who tells you to honor your parents and it's ALWAYS right to obey God.*

6. What do you think?

- a. What do you think might have happened if Bella decided to stay at Zoe's and play with the new kitten for a while?
 - i. *There probably would not have been any giant cookies left at the market!*

Dismissal: review the verse and sign language; say the main point together:

Obeying my parents makes them happy and can bring special rewards.

Dexter "which dog is different" handout

Planning Notes:

Fall 2023 CT: 'I Will Obey' Junior Version

Why should I honor and obey?

"I will honor and obey my parents because God uses them to protect and guide me."

What does God say? Ephesians 6:1 (ESV):

"Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right."

Week 11b: Nov 20-21 (Closed 22-25)

1. Practice declaration & verse together

2. Lead-in: Stickers for returned obedience handouts

- a. What are some of the commands Oscar has learned in our story?
 - i. *Sit, stay, come, come when I'm not looking!*
- b. What important lessons has Bella learned about obeying?
 - i. *Obeying parents will help her stay safe and happy; she will not lose privileges; God always sees her even when no one else does; good rewards come from obeying.*

3. Lesson 12: Obeying my parents makes them happy and can bring special rewards.

4. Review the chapter using pictures: A Special Treat

5. Questions (Choose one or more that best fits your class)

- a. What did Mom say to Bella when she told her why she looked so sad?
 - i. *"I'm sorry, Bella. But you did the right thing." Mom was letting Bella know that she was happy with Bella's choice to come right home.*
- b. The next part of that bible verse says that if you honor and respect your father and your mother, *"Then everything will be well with you, and you will have a long life on the earth."* Who does God want things to go well for?
 - i. *YOU! When you honor and obey your parents, you honor and obey God and He will cause things to go well for you.*
- c. Why did Mom decide to buy special treats for Bella and Oscar?
 - i. *They BOTH were learning how to please their authorities.*
 - ii. *Mom loves Bella so much, she wants to reward her for her right choices.*

6. What do you think?

- a. Do you think it's possible to be happy when you disobey?
 - i. *You might be happy for a short time, but it will not last. Lasting happiness comes when you know you are pleasing your parents and God.*
 - ii. *When you disobey, you usually want to hide or lie about it.*
 - iii. *When you obey, you never need to worry about being caught. God and your parents want things to go well for YOU!*

Dismissal: review the verse and sign language; say the main point together:

Obeying my parents makes them happy and can bring special rewards.

Planning Notes:

Fall 2023 CT: 'I Will Obey' Junior Version

Why should I honor and obey?

"I will honor and obey my parents because God uses them to protect and guide me."

What does God say? Ephesians 6:1 (ESV):

"Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right."

Week 12: Nov 27 - Dec 2

1. Practice declaration & verse together

2. Lead-in: *Stickers for returned obedience handouts*

- a. Who remembers some of the commands Oscar has learned in our story?
 - i. *Sit, stay, come, come when I'm not looking!*
- b. And who remembers some of the lessons Bella has learned about obeying?
 - i. *Obeying parents will help her stay safe and happy; she will not lose privileges; God always sees her even when no one else does; good rewards come from obeying.*

3. Season Review: Since this is our week of learning about obeying parents, we're going to play a game called **Who Remembers!** ([Junior Supplements for Lesson 12.](#))

Coaches: How to play:

1. Turn all visuals (except supplements) face down on the floor.
2. Review lesson points on each of the supplements then line them up against the wall.
3. Have kids sit in a circle around the visuals and let a student pick one up and show it to everyone.
4. Coach asks: "Who remembers what this picture is about?" Or ask a more specific question like, "Who remembers why (*character's*) face is so sad in this picture?"
5. Ask which lesson point it is connected to.
6. Set that visual under the correct lesson point.
7. Go around the circle until everyone has picked one up. Do more than one if time.

Dismissal: review the verse and sign language; say the main point together:

Repeat together: **I will honor and obey my parents because God uses them to protect and guide me.**