A WORTHWILE INVESTMENT

Ephesians 6:1-4 (NASB)

Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. Honor your father and mother (which is the first commandment with a promise), so that it may be well with you, and that you may live long on the earth. Fathers, do not provoke your children to anger, but bring them up in the discipline and instruction of the Lord.

Children must <u>obey</u> their parents

Obey and Honor

(Eph 6:1 NASB) Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. 2Honor your father and mother (which is the first commandment with a promise), 3so that it may be well with you, and that you may live long on the earth.

Even Jesus submitted himself to his parents

(Luke 2:52 NASB) And He (Jesus) went down with them and came to Nazareth, and He continued in subjection to them; and His mother treasured all these things in her heart.

A Blessing is promised

(Deuteronomy 5:16 NASB) Honor your father and your mother, as the LORD your God has commanded you, that your days may be prolonged and that it may go well with you on the land which the LORD your God gives you.

Dads need to bring up their children.

Teach them all the time

(Deu 11:19-21 NASB) "You shall teach them to your sons, talking of them when you sit in your house and when you walk along the road and when you lie down and when you rise up. "You shall write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates, so that your days and the days of your sons may be multiplied on the land which the LORD swore to your fathers to give them, as long as the heavens remain above the earth.

Qualification for Elders

(1 Tim 3:4 NIV) He must manage his own family well and see that his children obey him with proper respect.

Children are a Gift

(Psa 127:3-4 NASB)

Behold, children are a gift of the LORD,

The fruit of the womb is a reward. Like arrows in the hand of a warrior, So are the children of one's youth.

Dads love their children by loving their wives

Don't break faith...

(Mal 2:13-14 NIV) Another thing you do: You flood the LORD'S altar with tears. You weep and wail because he no longer pays attention to your offerings or accepts them with pleasure from your hands. 14You ask, "Why?" It is because the LORD is acting as the witness between you and the wife of your youth, because you have broken faith with her, though she is your partner, the wife of your marriage covenant.

with the wife of your youth

(Mal 2:15-16 NIV) Has not the LORD made them one? In flesh and spirit they are his. And why one? Because he was seeking godly offspring.£ So guard yourself in your spirit, and do not break faith with the wife of your youth.

"I hate divorce," says the LORD God of Israel, "and I hate a man's covering himself with violence as well as with his garment," says the LORD Almighty.

So guard yourself in your spirit, and do not break faith.

Fathers to their children

(Mal 4:5-6 NIV) "See, I will send you the prophet Elijah before that great and dreadful day of the LORD comes. He will turn the hearts of the fathers to their children, and the hearts of the children to their fathers; or else I will come and strike the land with a curse."

We need to invest in children

True Religion

(James 1:27 NASB) Pure and undefiled religion in the sight of our God and Father is this: to visit orphans and widows in their distress, and to keep oneself unstained by the world.

Be careful

(Mat 18:6 NIV) But if anyone causes one of these little ones who believe in me to sin, it would be better for him to have a large millstone hung around his neck and to be drowned in the depths of the sea.

