

DISCUSSION GUIDE

Do Not Exasperate Your Children
Colossians — Week 33

ICEBREAKER: Would you rather have a fast forward, pause, or rewind button on your life?

OVERVIEW: God has placed children under the authority of their parents for protection, training, and instruction. Without strong parenting, children will go down the wrong path. However, in attempting to raise godly children Christian parents can push their children to give up or even rebel. It is essential that parents learn to balance discipline with love. In this study we will go deeper with how parents can avoid exasperating and discouraging their children.

1. What insight, principle, or observation from this weekend's message did you find to be the most helpful, eye-opening, or troubling? Explain. (Or what was your key takeaway from Sunday's message?)
2. Read Colossians 3:21. Why is this verse directed at fathers rather than parents?
3. What does it mean to exasperate your children?
4. What are the dangers of discouraging your children?

5. How can parents avoid exasperating their children?
6. What can you do to help your children if you notice that they are discouraged?
7. F.F. Bruce said, "Let parents see to it that they deserve obedience; and more than this, that they make obedience easy." What can parents do to deserve obedience? What can they do to make obedience easy?
8. What are the most common causes of exasperation in your children, and what positive changes can you make to help your child?
9. Is it possible to never exasperate your child? Explain.

The Last Word: "Discipline must always be exercised in love; and if you cannot exercise it in love, do not attempt it at all." D. Martin Lloyd-Jones