

**Ephesians 6 (1-16-11)**

*The Family Series*

**PARENTAL-PHOBIA:  
(THE PLAGUE OF PERMISSIVE PARENTING)**

**TEXT: Ephesians 6:1** Children, obey your parents in the Lord: for this is right.

2 Honour thy father and mother; (which is the first commandment with promise;)

3 That it may be well with thee, and thou mayest live long on the earth.

4 **And, ye fathers, provoke not your children to wrath: but bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord.**

**2 Timothy 3:1** This know also, that in the last days perilous times shall come.

2 For men shall be lovers of their own selves, covetous, boasters, proud, blasphemers, **disobedient to parents**, unthankful, unholy,

**Hosea 4:1** Hear the word of the LORD, ye children of Israel: for **the LORD hath a controversy with the inhabitants of the land**, because there is **no truth**, nor mercy, nor knowledge of God in the land.

2 By swearing, and lying, and killing, and stealing, and committing adultery, they break out, and blood toucheth blood.

3 **Therefore shall the land mourn**, and every one that dwelleth therein shall languish, **with the beasts of the field, and with the fowls of heaven; yea, the fishes of the sea also shall be taken away.**

6 My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge: because thou hast rejected knowledge...

7 As they were increased, so they sinned against me: **therefore will I change their glory into shame.**

4 And, ye fathers, provoke not your children to wrath: but bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord.

**Proverbs 29:15** The rod and reproof give wisdom: but **a child left to himself** bringeth his mother to shame.

**1 Timothy 5:14** I will therefore that the younger women marry, bear children, **guide the house...**

**Proverbs 29:22** An angry man stirreth up strife, and a furious man **aboundeth in transgression.**

**Proverbs 22:15** Foolishness is **bound** in the heart of a child; but the rod of correction shall **drive** it far from him.

"...bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord."

**Ephesians 2:3** Among whom also we all had our conversation in times past in the lusts of our flesh, fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind; and **were by nature the children of wrath**, even as others.

**Proverbs 24:30** I went by the field of the slothful, and by the vineyard of the man void of understanding;

31 And, lo, it was all grown over with thorns, and nettles had covered the face thereof, and the stone wall thereof was broken down.

**Proverbs 22:6 Train up a child in the way he should go:** and when he is old, he will not depart from it. "There are countless unanswered questions about why Jared Loughner allegedly went on a shooting rampage, but of this we can be sure: across America there are thousands of parents of older adolescents and young adults who are terrified that their child's strange behavior...will lead to violence...'The mental-health-care 'system' in America is a broken system,' says Michael Fitzpatrick...Arizona's Pima County has a mobile psychiatric unit that anyone - patient, family, acquaintance - can call on a 24-hour hotline and that will send a professional to evaluate or provide counseling to someone..." (Newsweek, Jan 14, 2011)

**Romans 12:8**...he that ruleth, with diligence...

**Ecclesiastes 9:10** Whatsoever thy hand findeth to do, do it with thy might...

**1 Timothy 3:4** One that ruleth well his own house, having his children **in subjection with all gravity**;  
12 Let the deacons be the husbands of one wife, ruling their children and their own houses well.

**1 Timothy 5:14** I will therefore that the younger women marry, bear children, **guide the house**, give **none occasion to the adversary to speak reproachfully**.

**Titus 2:4** That they may teach the young women to be sober, to love their husbands, **to love their children**,  
5 To be discreet, chaste, keepers at home, good, obedient to their own husbands, **that the word of God be not blasphemed**.

**Ezekiel 16:27**...the daughters of the Philistines, **which are ashamed of thy lewd way**.

**Ephesians 4:17** This I say therefore, and testify in the Lord, that ye henceforth walk not as other Gentiles walk, in the vanity of their mind,

*"Hey, I'm Terrific! The Latest National Elixir - Self-Esteem - Is Supposed To Cure Everything From Poor Grades To Bad Management. Instead, It Gives Feeling Good A Bad Name...* Psychologist Harold Stevenson of the University of Michigan found that American schoolchildren rank far ahead of students in Japan, Taiwan and China in self-confidence about their abilities in math. Unfortunately, this achievement was marred by the fact that Americans were far behind in actual performance in math. Japanese parents 'don't lavish praise on their children - they're concerned they will end up thinking too much about themselves...'...Katz, who is also a professor of education at the University of Illinois...[says] 'I'm getting so sick of these empty slogans'...citing an example of an Illinois school decked out with a giant banner reading: WE APPLAUD OURSELVES...'Teachers think that if they don't do this stuff, the kids won't do the work, but that's ridiculous. We don't need all this flattery. No other country does this'...This is not a prescription for never saying anything nice to children. Children do need encouragement... The Self-Esteem movement hunts down negative thoughts with a holy zeal...[For example, see,] '101 Ways to Make Your Child Feel Special,' by well-known parenting authority Vicki Lansky...It is a matter less of scientific pedagogy than of faith - faith that positive thoughts can make manifest the inherent goodness in anyone, even 10-year old boys. Americans are notoriously partial to this brand of naive optimism..." (Jerry Adler, Newsweek, February 17, 1992)

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"Picture this: in an elementary-school mathematic's class, children are drawing cubes. One boy is having trouble; although he's diligently copying the teacher's model, his cube still looks crooked. The teacher tells the boy to go to the blackboard and try again. He spends the rest of the class there, his work on display before all the other students. In an American school, a youngster subjected to such scrutiny might well burst into tears; the teacher would be considered harsh. But this was Japan, and the boy seemed unperturbed...By the end of the class, the boy drew a decent cube and his classmates applauded...In their new book, 'The Learning Gap'...Stevenson and his coauthor, James W. Stigler of UCLA, say the cube incident highlights a major difference between American and Asian schools...the American attitude dooms too many children to second-class status...'We have set up a curriculum and we don't expect all children to learn it,' he says...Despite...problems, Stevenson says Americans ignore the lessons of Japan at their peril... every year, the Americans' test scores have fallen farther and farther behind..."  
(Barbara Kantrowitz, *Newsweek*, May 11, 1992)

*"Why Chinese Mothers Are Superior - Can a regimen of no playdates, no TV, no computer games and hours of music practice create happy kids?...A lot of people wonder how Chinese parents raise such stereotypically successful kids. They wonder what these parents do to produce so many math whizzes and music prodigies...Well, I can tell them, because I've done it. Here are some things my daughters, Sophia and Louisa, were never allowed to do: attend a sleepover, have a playdate...watch TV or play computer games, choose their own extracurricular activities, get any grade less than an A...I'm using the term 'Chinese mother' loosely. I know some Korean, Indian, Jamaican, Irish...parents who qualify too...when Western parents think they're being strict, they usually don't come close to being Chinese mothers...my Western friends who consider themselves strict make their children practice their instruments 30 minutes every day. An hour at most. For a Chinese mother, the first hour is the easy part. It's hours two and three that get tough...Despite our squeamishness about cultural stereotypes, there are tons of studies out there showing marked and quantifiable differences between Chinese and Westerners when it comes to parenting. In one study of 50 Western American mothers and 48 Chinese immigrant mothers, almost 70% of the Western mothers said either that 'stressing academic success is not good for children' or that 'parents need to foster the idea that learning is fun.' By contrast, roughly 0% of the Chinese mothers felt the same way. Instead, the vast majority of the Chinese mothers said that they believe their children can be 'the best' students, that 'academic achievement reflects successful parenting,' and that if children did not excel at school then there was 'a problem' and parents 'were not doing their job.' Other studies indicate that compared to Western parents, Chinese parents spend approximately **10 times as long** every day drilling academic activities with their children...**What Chinese parents understand is that nothing is fun until you're good at it. To get good at anything you have to work, and children on their own never want to work, which is why it is crucial to override their preferences. This often requires fortitude on the part of the parents because the child will resist; things are always hardest at the beginning, which is where Western parents tend to give up...Tenacious practice, practice, practice is crucial for excellence; rote repetition is underrated in America...**The fact is that Chinese parents can do things that would seem unimaginable - even legally actionable - to Westerners. Chinese mothers can say to their daughters, 'Hey fatty - lose some weight.' By contrast, Western parents have to tiptoe around the issue...and their kids still end up in therapy for eating disorders and negative self-image...Chinese parents can say, 'You're lazy. All your classmates are getting ahead of you'... **Western parents are extremely anxious about their children's self-esteem. They worry***

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**about how their children will feel...**Western parents are concerned about their children's psyches. Chinese parents aren't. They assume strength, **not fragility**, and as a result they behave very differently...Western parents may worry that their child does not test well or have aptitude in the subject or that there is something wrong with the curriculum and possibly the whole school. If the child's grades do not improve, they may eventually schedule a meeting with the school principal to challenge the way the subject is being taught...Chinese parents demand perfect grades because they believe that their child can get them. If their child doesn't get them, the Chinese parent assumes it's because the child didn't work hard enough. That's why the solution to substandard performance is always to excoriate, punish and shame the child. The Chinese parent believes that their child will be strong enough to take the shaming and to improve from it...Chinese parents believe that they know what is best for their children and therefore override all of their children's own desires and preferences. That's why Chinese daughters can't have boyfriends in high school and why Chinese kids can't go to sleepaway camp...It's just an entirely different parenting model...All decent parents want to do what's best for their children. The Chinese just have a totally different idea of how to do that...Western parents try to respect their children's individuality, encouraging them to pursue their true passions, supporting their choices, and providing positive reinforcement and a nurturing environment. By contrast, the Chinese believe that the best way to protect their children is by preparing them for the future, letting them see what they're capable of, and arming them with skills, work habits..."  
(Amy Chua, *The Wall Street Journal*, Jan. 8, 2011)

**Colossians 3:21** Fathers, provoke not your children to anger, **lest they be discouraged.**