House Rules #7

**Intro**: Kris Kristopherson song, Castaway

*‘Cause like a ship without a rudder;*

*I’m just drifting with the tide*

*And each day I’m drawing closer to the brink*

*Just a speck upon the waters;*

*of an ocean deep and wide*

*I won’t even make a ripple when I sink*

***For His Purpose; Under His Authority; In His Power***

 Gospel Invitation to live Purpose, Authority and Power.

**t/s** – Families are Built on that Foundation… Household Code

 Wives; Husbands; Next week – Parents

***Today, Children***. (Jesus said, “Let the children come to me”)

 Valuable and Able to Respond/Serve

**Ephesians 6: 1-3 (READ)**

**Children Learn Obedience at Home.** (Understand and Apply)

**A Command for Both Action and Attitude.**

Exp – Notice the use of two key words --- Obey and Honor.

 ***Honor*** = Attitude… Weightiness… Status or significance.

 Respect; Appreciation; Service… Begins with OBEY.

***Obey*** = Action word, To hear + prefix, Under…

 ILL – “Speak , Lord, your servant is Listening”

 (***Tell Story*** == Committed to Obedience)

 ***Living Under Authority.***

**ILL** – Lewis Smedes Ethics at Fuller for 25 years; **Mere Morality**

 Kill = Respect for Human Life; Adultery = Marriage Covenant

 Steal = Respect for Property; Lie = Respect for the Truth

 Honor Father & Mother = ***Respect for Authority***

**App** – Children, teenagers…. You need to learn Obedience.

* Musician who cannot follow the conductor
* Athlete who is not coachable

***Learn Obedience at Home.***

**A Duty that is Both Moral and Spiritual (vs. 1)**

Exp – Notice two qualifiers = *In the Lord, for this is right*.

 ***Obedience is a Moral Duty***

 *This is Right* = A disobedient child disgusts people in

 Every culture, place and time.

 ***Obedience is a Spiritual Duty***

 Limitations… 5th commandment limited by First!

 *In the Lord* = Under the Authority of Christ.

 **Note:** Not because they are always right or they deserve it;

 But because Jesus Christ Commands it.

**ILL** – Imaging buying a shiny apple… big, read, gorgeous.

 Bite into it… rotten at the core.

**App** – I have known teenagers who never missed a Wednesday night.

 Faithful with QT; Mission Trips; Lifestyle at school; Witness.

 ***Disrespectful and Disobedient*** to their parents…

 **Spiritual Health** = How is Relationship with Spouse?

How is your Relationships with Parents!

**A Promise that is Both Practical and Supernatural.**

Exp – Vs. 2b – 3 – Paul quotes Deuteronomy but changes

 *In the Land to ….* ***On the Earth***

 A Promise to People who Learn Obedience to Parents.

* ***You will live a long, good Life.***

(Corporate, not individual… exceptions to this rule!)

1. **Practical** = Imagine the hardships and dangers of a rebellious child… foolish, risky, dead end roads.

**ILL –** Long line to testify, “I wish I had listened.”

1. **Spiritual** = God will bless Obedience.

**Read Ephesians 6: 1-3 Again** (Two points ofApplication)

**Parents, your children need to Learn Obedience at Home.**

They do not NEED to love you, they do not need to like you, they do not need to be your friend and they do not need to think you are cool. ***They NEED to Learn Obedience.***

Smedes – *Conventional wisdom today has it that families are here to provide emotional support… a haven in a heartless world. Family becomes a place where a child is* ***coddled, cuddled and comforted****.*

**ILL** – Boy disciplined for throwing rocks at school.

**App** – Is your child learning Obedience to Authority?

**Children – Obey your Parents as an Act of Faith.**

For His Purpose, Under His Authority, In His Power…Obey your parents. Do not disconnect this relationship from your walk with Jesus! The Lord will bless me if I Learn Obedience at Home.

**ILL** – Ripple effect…like rock in the water… rest of relationships.

**Learn Obedience at Home.**