

## Parents, Be in Charge!

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### Introduction: Authority in the Home.

A. Authority (exousia) is *“The power of authority, the right to exercise power... the power of one whose will and commands must be obeyed by others.”* (Vine).

B. Every group or establishment has to be regulated by some system of authority:

1. Church (**Mat. 28:18; 1 Pet. 5:1-2**).
2. School or business (**Mat. 10:24; Col. 3:22**).
3. Government / Nation (**Rom. 13:1**).
4. **The Home is No Exception!** (**Eph. 5:22-23; 6:1-4**).

C. The proper exercise of parental authority is essential to training our children *“in the way he should go”* (**Prov. 22:6**).

### I. It is Absolutely Essential That Parents Exercise Authority Over Their Children!

A. Children need direction and guidance from their parents, for they do **not** know what is *ultimately* best for them (**Eph. 6:1-4**).

B. Parents must not only exercise authority over their children by way of instruction and discipline, but also demonstrate **their own** respect for authority *by way of example* (**Eph. 6:2; 1 Tim. 5:4**).

C. Despite the importance of parental authority, too many parents are reluctant to fully exercise their authority over their children (e.g., **1 Sam. 3:13; 1 King 1:6; Prov. 29:15; 19:18**).

### II. Worldly Ideals of What a Parent Should Be Which Discourage Parental Authority.

A. The ideal of “perfection” (e.g., One false move and your child is scarred for life!). (**1 John 1:8, 10; Prov. 23:13-14**).

B. The ideal of the “all-powerful” provider (a parent who continually and always provides for them all of their “needs”) (**1 Tim. 6:8**).

C. The ideal of parents *always* being “calm, cool, and collected” (**Eph. 4:26-27**).

D. The ideal that parents should possess **mastery** of the skills and techniques of parenting (Thus, parents never trust their own judgment and they lack confidence and initiative). (**2 Tim. 3:16-17; 1 Cor. 1:20; James 1:22-25**).

E. The ideal of lone parenting (i.e., seeking help from other people in parenting is a sign of weakness) (**Titus 2:3-5**).

### III. Parents Take Charge of Your Children!

A. Always remember, you have the right and responsibility to assume authority over your children and expect obedience (**Col. 3:20**).

B. Do not be passive in your role as parents nor aggressive, but be **assertive** with love! (**1 Sam. 3:13; 1 King 1:6; Col. 3:21; Titus 2:5**).

C. Your commitment to fulfill parental authority is a demonstration of love for your children and care for the salvation of their souls (**Prov. 13:24; Eph. 6:4**).

**Conclusion: Parents, Use Your God-Given Authority and Take Charge of Your Children!**