



# Support, Shepherd, and Send Out Our Kids



13-SESSION GUIDED STUDY  
BY RYAN JOY & BRYAN SCHIELE

## Session 13: Joyful in Obedience

Conversation Starter: "The Greatest Gift" (Daily Download #256)  
Bonus Resource: "Are You Beaming Right Now?" (Weekly Episode #152)

[biblegeeks.fm/trainingwheels](https://biblegeeks.fm/trainingwheels)

SESSION  
**13**

THE CONVERSATION STARTER

# “The Greatest Gift”



SENDING THEM OUT

Launch your study with this  
**CONVERSATION STARTER**  
Watch the video or read it below.



READ

Before the study, take  
a moment to read  
Matt. 12:46-50; Titus 1:5-9;  
3 John 2-4



**BONUS RESOURCE**  
Feel free to listen to  
**Weekly episode #152,**  
**“Are You Beaming  
Right Now?”** before  
your study, as an  
example of a  
conversation led by  
this study guide.  
[biblegeeks.fm/152](https://biblegeeks.fm/152)



**A** macaroni necklace. A glitter-bomb birthday card. A "World's Best Dad" coffee cup. If you've ever opened a present from your child, you know it's not the money they spent that makes it valuable. Instead, it's how the gift expresses their love. That's why parents can honestly say, "It's the thought that counts." But what's the greatest gift a parent could receive from their children? We've given stability and shepherding, but what do we hope we've prepared them to do? We send them out, hoping to rejoice with them when our Lord becomes their Lord.



**THE BIG IDEA**

What a gift – when a "son" or "daughter" becomes a "brother" or "sister" in Christ.

Imagine the day we serve our King alongside them as adults! While hopefully, everyone loves their kids, maybe not everyone likes them. Some children grow up and become people you don't admire or enjoy being around. That's why we work every day to bring them under the shepherding and shaping influence of God. Faithful children don't happen by accident but by continually placing the Lord above all in a family's life (Titus 1:5-6).

Sometimes we're the bad guy, saying "no" until they learn to say it for themselves. Rather than treating our kindergarteners like buddies, we invest in disciplining them while they're small so that eventually, we can enjoy friendship with healthy, spiritually developed adults. Don't rush the process! And so we send them out into the world — not to leave us forever, but to build their own lives and families on what we've given them. We want to share our lives with their families because that's our family.

As parents, we look down the road beyond the piano recitals, report cards, and career decisions. It's fun to see our kids succeed, but life is full of hard choices. They need to know that if they lose their soul, they've lost everything (Mark 8:36). So keep the faith and remind them every day about the greatest gift ever given: salvation in Jesus!



**THE BIG QUESTION**

Will your kids become people you enjoy being around?

# Rejoicing in Obedience

REJOICE WHEN YOUR CHILDREN FOLLOW THE LORD

## INTRODUCTION



Launch the study with a **CONVERSATION STARTER** on the Big Idea. Read, listen, or watch “The Greatest Gift” – [biblegeeks.fm/daily-256](https://biblegeeks.fm/daily-256) ▶▶



**ICE BREAKER** — Get everyone engaged and talking.

What's the best Mother's Day or Father's Day present you've received?

## ACT I



**JESUS SAID:** Matt. 12:46-50

What's the main point of this passage?

What insights and applications do you take from these words of Christ? What do we need to get from these words that – if understood and applied – has the power to change a life or a family?

Is there anything else here you find helpful or interesting? Anything you've never noticed before – or have always loved about these words?

SESSION  
**13**

# Rejoicing in Obedience

REJOICE WHEN YOUR CHILDREN FOLLOW THE LORD

## ACT II



### HEAVY WORDS: Honor

We might not think much about honor, but the writers of both the Old and New Testaments spoke directly to a culture where honor and shame were fundamental concerns of daily life. When we honor someone, we see their **worth** and give **weight** to who they are. The Greek word for “honor” (τιμή – “timē”) means “price, value” and then secondly, “honor, reverence”<sup>1</sup>. The root of the Hebrew word for “honor” (כָּבוֹד – “kabod”) “literally means heavy or weighty. The figurative meaning, however, is far more common: ‘to give weight to someone.’”<sup>2</sup>. If you’re studying in a group, choose one passage you want to share something about, and prepare a few notes.

Matt. 15:3-9; Rom. 12:10; 13:7; Eph. 6:2; 1 Peter 1:7; 2:7, 17; 3:7; John 4:44; 5:23; 12:26

How would you define the English word “honor”?

What do you learn about honor from Scripture?

How can kids honor their parents? Is there a time for parents to show honor to kids?

What’s your biggest takeaway about relationships from these passages and this word?

<sup>1</sup> -William Arndt et al., *A Greek-English Lexicon of the New Testament and Other Early Christian Literature* (BDAG)

<sup>2</sup> - Sam Hamstra Jr., “Honor,” in *Evangelical Dictionary of Biblical Theology*

# Rejoicing in Obedience

REJOICE WHEN YOUR CHILDREN FOLLOW THE LORD

## ACT III

---



**REACH OUT** — Connect with each other with this question.

How does the thought of an "empty nest" sound to you?

## WRAP UP

---



**THE CHALLENGE** — Ready to put it into practice?

Check in with a young person about how they want to serve God when they grow up.



**REQUEST** — Go to God in a closing prayer.

For example: "God, give our children a heart of wisdom" (cf. Prov. 10:1).