

No. 7 Be Loyal, as Jesus Was (Symposium)
 -When Young

[PLEASE NOTE: This talk includes a video. Each part in this symposium will address (1) how our loyalty is challenged, (2) how Jesus maintained his loyalty, and (3) how we can maintain ours]

HOW IS OUR LOYALTY TO JEHOVAH CHALLENGED WHEN WE ARE YOUNG? (2 min.)

Obedying one's parents is an essential aspect of loyalty to Jehovah (Pr 1:8)

Some youths develop negative attitudes toward their parents who might lack technical abilities or literacy skills in which young people may excel (w07 2/15 25-26 ¶11)

Television often depicts parents as foolish (g94 7/22 5 ¶3)

Peers can influence youths to disobey parents (Pr 13:20)

HOW DID JESUS MAINTAIN HIS LOYALTY WHEN YOUNG? (4 min.)

[Read Luke 2:51, 52 and footnote]

Jesus "remained obedient" to his parents

Many youths believe that they are smarter than their parents and act accordingly

Jesus, although perfect, remained in subjection to his imperfect parents

Did awareness of his parents' flaws move Jesus to tell them how to manage the family? (w09 7/15 11 ¶16; cf 62 ¶18)

No, he recognized their God-given responsibility (De 6:6, 7)

Honoring parents involves love, respect, and loyalty, not merely a sense of duty or begrudging obedience (w00 6/15 15 ¶14)

Jesus' warm affection for his parents enabled him to remain loyal and submissive even when a misunderstanding occurred

When Jesus was 12 years old, his parents were frantically looking for him [Read Luke 2:48, 49] (w07 2/15 25 ¶10)

Jesus' reply was not disrespectful but sincere

We cannot imagine Jesus resisting his parents' authority

Loyalty moved him to 'continue subject to them' (Lu 2:51)

HOW CAN WE MAINTAIN OUR LOYALTY WHEN YOUNG? (2 min.)

Young ones need to learn from Jesus and imitate his loyalty

View your parents as allies, not adversaries (w13 5/15 22 ¶14)

Submission to your parents, even when your preference is not followed, demonstrates loyalty to Jehovah [Read Ephesians 6:1, 2]

Notice how this can be seen in the following dramatization

VIDEO (3 min.)

BE DETERMINED TO MAINTAIN YOUR LOYALTY WHEN YOUNG (1 min.)

Jesus was rewarded for his loyal subjection to his parents

Imitating Jesus' loyalty is "well-pleasing" to Jehovah (Col 3:20)

It brings joy to your God-fearing parents (Pr 23:24, 25)

It results in happiness now and a bright future (Pr 3:1, 2)

Brother _____ will now consider the next part of this symposium, "Be Loyal, as Jesus Was-When Persecuted"

TO BE COVERED IN 12 MINUTES