

A night photograph of the New York City skyline, featuring the Hudson River in the foreground. Two powerful beams of blue light rise from the water, symbolizing the Twin Towers of the World Trade Center. The city buildings are illuminated with various lights, creating a dense pattern of glowing windows.

We Will Never Forget

**RELATIONSHIPS**

**PARENT - CHILD TO  
FATHER - SON RELATIONSHIP**

# Various Levels of Godly Relationships

## The Shepherd - Flock Relationship

This relationship is seen in two areas:

- Shepherd- Lamb Relationship (the young in the Lord)
- Shepherd- Sheep Relationship (the mature)

# Teacher - Disciple Relationship

Also known as the:

- Master - Slave Relationship

Note: Slave is better understood as, “bond-servant”.

# **Parent - Child Relationship**

Note: This relationship should grow into a  
**Father – Son Relationship**

# **Father - Son Relationship**

Note: The Father - Son Relationship is the  
level of relationship we are to press towards.

# *What we learn in the Teacher-Disciple Relationship:*

1. Honor
2. Respect
3. Submission and Obedience
4. Interdependence  
(mutual dependence)
5. Commitment
6. Loyalty
7. Dignity
8. Servanthood

## *What we gain by heeding the voice of our teachers:*

1. Expert advice in the area of the teacher's expertise.
2. Long life (Prov. 3:1-2).
3. Length of days (Prov. 3:1-2).
4. Peace (Prov. 3:1-2).

***What we gain by heeding the voice of our teachers*** (continued):

5. (Similar to #1) The instruction on how to do what the Teacher can do  
(Mark 6:12-13;30-31 and Heb 5:12-14).
6. We ourselves can become teachers (Heb 5:12-14).
7. We become skilled in the words of righteousness  
(Heb 5:12-14).
8. Our senses exercised to discern both good and evil  
(Heb 5:12-14).

# *The Transition from Teacher - Disciple to Parent - Child*

## **1 Corinthians 4:14-17**

14 I do not write these things to shame you,  
but as my beloved children I warn *you*.

15 For though you might have ten thousand  
instructors in Christ, yet *you*  
*do not have* many fathers; for in Christ Jesus  
I have begotten you through the gospel.

## 1 Corinthians 4:14-17 (continued)

16 Therefore I urge you, imitate me.

17 For this reason I have sent Timothy to you, who is my beloved and faithful son in the Lord, who will remind you of my ways in Christ, as I teach everywhere in every church.

## These Relationships are:

1. *Parent-Child Relationship* (v.14, “my beloved children”).
2. *Teacher-Disciple Relationship* (v.15, “ten thousand instructors”).
3. *Shepherd-Flock (Lamb) Relationship* (v.15, “I have begotten you”).
4. *Teacher-Disciple and/or Parent-Child Relationship* (v.16, “imitate me”).
5. *Parent-Child (Father-Son) Relationship* (v.17, “I have sent Timothy to you, who is my beloved and faithful son”).

v.16 “*imitate me*”

**Imitate**= [3402, Grk.] *mimetes* (mim-ay-tace)-  
an imitator:- follower.

This word is very similar to mimic, and mime.

## Romans 12:3

For I say, through the grace given to me, to everyone who is among you, not to think *of himself* more highly than he ought to think, but to think soberly, as God has dealt to each one a measure of faith.

*Arrogant because:*

- 1. They take on this role by assumption.*
- 2. In order to do this one must think higher of himself than he ought.*
- 3. This role wasn't given to him/her properly by those who have been placed as a teacher or parent in their life.*

## Dangerous Because:

1. At this level of maturity and relationship, this one has not been developed enough to carry the weight of the role he/she is attempting to be in.
2. Their words have not yet been weighed and tested by those in authority over them.
3. It is the same principle of the “blind leading the blind” (or in this case, the immature leading the immature)

## Luke 6:39-40

39 And He spoke a parable to them: “Can the blind lead the blind? Will they not both fall into the ditch?

40 A disciple is not above his teacher, but everyone who is perfectly trained will be like his teacher.

*My Notes: or the immature leading the immature*

**Disrespectful to the Teacher or Parent  
because:**

1. It shows a great deal of disrespect those over us.
2. It is dishonoring to those over us.
3. This one is falsely representing his/her teacher/parent.
4. Shows a lack of submission and obedience.

## 2 Kings 2:9

And so it was, when they had crossed over, that Elijah said to Elisha, “Ask! What may I do for you, before I am taken away from you?”

Elisha said, “Please let a double portion of your spirit be upon me.”

# *We Determine Our Own Blessing*

## **Genesis 49:28**

All these *are* the twelve tribes of Israel, and this *is* what their father spoke to them. And he blessed them; he blessed each one according to his own blessing.

## Genesis 49:28 (NASB)

All these are the twelve tribes of Israel, and this is what their father said to them when he blessed them, every one with the blessing appropriate to him.



