**Message Notes Pastor Dave Gudgel**

**Date:** May 15, 2016 **Bible Focus:** Colossians 3:21

Current Series: Uncomplicated

Message Title: One Thing Parents Shouldn’t Do

**Colossians 3:21 -** Fathers, do not embitter your children, or they will become discouraged.

**1 Samuel 20:34** - Jonathan got up from the table in fierce anger; on that second day of the month he did not eat, because he was grieved at his father's shameful treatment of David.

**1 Kings 1:6b –** Now his father had never corrected him by saying, "Why do you do such things?"

**Ephesians 6:4 -** Fathers, do not exasperate your children; instead, bring them up in the training and instruction of the Lord.

**Questions for Reflection and Discussion**

Colossians 3:21

1. Take a few minutes to consider contrasting parenting approaches. In what ways have you seen a parent’s child-raising approach help or hurt the children that grew up in their homes?
2. How do you connect with Paul’s admonition to parents found in Colossians 3:21? Have you personally had to work through feelings of exasperation or discouragement due to your parents’ approach?
3. In what ways do the two destructive parenting approaches Pastor Dave focused on have similar and different outcomes?
4. Do you have any thoughts about the parenting advice Paul gave in Colossians 3:21? Why do you think he focused more on what not to do than what to do?
5. In what ways does the Ephesians 6:4 passage help parents? Why are both godly correction and godly counsel necessary?
6. Can you see any other application of today’s message beyond the home? If so, in what ways and where?
7. What would the Lord want you to take from today’s message focus? What will that mean in the next few days?