



Kenny's 8 Count of Reasons to Obey Your Parents

*(While no one is blessed with perfect parents,
most of these are true about most parents.)*



1. **Your parents love you.** This may seem like a given but as you go through life you will discover how rare and precious true love is. Not only did they give you life, they have been stepping up to the plate in every way imaginable since you arrived in this world. Don't expect them to be perfect. If they were, how could you ever live up to that?
2. **Your parents provide for you.** When you think about disobeying your parents to fit in with kids at school or someone you like, stop and consider this: who puts a roof over your head, food in your belly, clothes on your back and will do whatever it takes to provide the things you need? It isn't that friend who is trying to get you to ignore your mom or dad, right? You will have plenty of time to explore things as you get older. For now, give your parents the loyalty they have earned.
3. **Your parents are your #1 teachers and mentors.** They taught you to walk, talk, tie your shoes and brush your teeth. They have also modeled how to treat other people, the payoff of hard work and how to handle life's challenges. They know your life story--your strengths and weaknesses; your likes and dislikes. One of the nicest gifts you can give yourself is allowing them to call the shots until they are satisfied that you are ready to take the reins. That day will come.
4. **Your parents' greatest desire is to see you do well in life.** They always have been and always will be your greatest cheerleaders. They were there when you took your first steps, on your first day of kindergarten, at your first school play or recital and your first sporting event. They will be there when you graduate from middle school, high school and college. They are constantly trying to help you discover your interests, talents and where you will thrive. Trust them. They've got your back.
5. **Your parents have loads of experience.** Why learn everything the hard way? Not that long ago, your parents were your age. It may seem hard to imagine, but they know EXACTLY what it feels like to be going through almost everything you could be facing. Ask for their help. It's free and it's usually good advice, for all the other reasons spelled out on this page.
6. **Your parents want to protect you.** So-called "little" mistakes can have huge consequences in life. Doing things your own way can take you farther than you want to go, cost you more than you want to pay and keep you longer than you want to stay. You can't be a little pregnant, get a small DUI, or have an insignificant arrest on your record. The best way to protect your future is to listen to the wisdom of your parents.
7. **Accepting discipline from your parents helps you develop self-discipline.** Soon enough, you will be making all of your own decisions. But succeeding in life requires discipline. How self-disciplined are you? Do you do the right things even when no one is asking or looking (from brushing your teeth and doing your chores, to coming home on time or finishing your studies before video games)? Until you are ready to step up to the plate, it is your parents' job to provide the necessary discipline.
8. **Obeying your parents is so important that it made God's Top 10 list.** Here is what the Bible says in Exodus 20:12: "Honor your father and your mother, so that you may live long." Wow! God actually makes a promise for getting this right. Pretty cool, huh? To me, obeying your parents is good practice for learning to obey God. He created us and has established guidelines to help us experience the best possible version of life on earth.

"What I say you must obey." Kenny Bayless