

**Grade 5**  
**Religious Studies**  
**Discovering My Identity Notes**  
**Roles and Responsibilities in the Family**

All individuals are born into families. Through family relationships they can discover their roles and responsibilities. Children are placed under the authority of their parents or guardian. They are trained based on the laws of God and the society. They are expected to follow the rules of the home and to complete assigned chores. They also bring joy and excitement to the home.



The roles of individuals in the family are generally different. According to the Bible, the father was created to be the provider and priest of the home. The mother was created to nurture the children and assist the father. Children were created to help their parents in the home. All family members are required to walk in obedience to God.

When individuals do not fulfil their roles, the family and society suffer. When fathers are absent the family loses its authority figure, income, and fatherly care. When mothers do not fulfil their roles, the home is not as organized, and children are neglected. When children do not fulfil their roles, parents must work much harder. Sometimes, the extended family must fulfil the roles of the father, mother and even the children.

There are several scriptures which address the role of children in families. Jesus our greatest example, submitted to the authority of His earthly parents (Luke 2:51-52). Children must respect and obey their parents. (Leviticus 19:3 & Ephesians 6:1- 4). They must also listen to their parents' instruction/teachings (Proverbs 6:24).