

The 10 Commandments: How Life Works

V: Honor your Mother and Father so that you may live long in the land the LORD your God is giving you.

(Exodus 20:12)

Ice Breaker Question:

Consider this question: "Other than life, what was the best gift your parents ever gave you?" how might you have answered that question at age 10 or fifteen, and how has your answer changed (if it has)?

and/or

How has your attitude toward your parents changed and matured over the years?

Going Deeper from Sunday

Sermon Synopsis

The fifth commandment tells us to honor our parents. It uniquely includes a promise or reward for keeping it. Part of living as God's people--having no other gods and upholding His name--is to honor those unique people who have given us life, brought us into the world, cared for, taught and raised us. Honoring others is central to honoring God and even ourselves, and our families of origin is the place we learn this and practice this first.

Share any reflections and/or questions that may have arisen from the sermon on Sunday?

Going Deeper

Many of us have some mixed feelings about this commandment. How do you respond to it?

What are some situations where we commonly see parents or grandparents honored? Why do we honor them? What does that look like?

Would you describe your house growing up as one in which you honored your parents and one another? Give some examples? What about your household now?

Read Ephesians 6:1-4

How do you compare honoring with obeying? In what ways is it different or similar? Can you honor without obeying?

What does it mean to 'exasperate' our children? Give some examples. Not exasperating our children is a way of honoring them. How does this in turn help them learn to honor us and others?

Read Luke 14:26

Is Jesus asking us to break the 5th commandment? (or is he warning us about putting our parents will before God's will?)

Give some examples of how you might honor our parents without necessarily doing what they want us to do.

In some ways, home is the place where we are our truest selves. However, children often behave (and are expected to behave) differently with those outside the home than with their own parents. How should we think about this, as we reflect on this 5th commandment?

Talk about some practical ways you can: Honor your living parents and make your home more of a place of honor. (If you parents are not living how can you begin to honor those around you?)

(Note, some questions are taken from Rob Suggs IV guide: The 10 Commandments)