

T H E T E N

COMMANDMENTS

THROUGH THE EYES OF JESUS

SERMON NOTES

Week 5 September 17, 2023

"A Question of Honor"

Exodus 20:12; Deuteronomy 27:16; Luke 6:27-28;
Romans 12:17,19-21; Matthew 15:1-9



I. Introduction

- A. The fifth commandment: _____ your father and your mother.
- B. The word 'honor' in Hebrew is the word 'Kaved' or 'Koved' and that means _____ (important or significant).

II. Honoring Our Father and Mother

- A. When we are young and our parents are seeking to protect us or teach us, to consider them significant or weighty includes _____.
- B. Treating someone as weighty, important, and/or significant, includes considering their needs, their feelings, and what might _____ them.

III. Exceptions: When Parents Act Dishonorably

- A. This fifth commandment does not apply to you if your parents acted dishonorably or _____ you in any way.
- B. Although the 5th commandment doesn't apply to us if we had parents that act dishonorably, we are commanded to not return _____ for evil.

IV. Caring for the Elderly

- A. Most scholars believe that the fifth commandment's primary intent was to ensure people cared for the _____.
- B. The fifth commandment is calling us to care for older adults who have _____ one else.

Things I Would Like to Remember About This Message



ASBURY DAILY STUDY GUIDE *September 18-23, 2023*

INTRODUCTION

Even if you did not grow up in the church, you have probably heard the fifth commandment to “honor your father and your mother.” Maybe your parents referenced this commandment when you did not obey them. Although this commandment is familiar, what does it look like to honor your parents?

Monday: Exodus 20:12, Ephesians 6:1-4

Are there dimensions to “honoring” your father and mother that go beyond the one idea of “obeying” them? How do increasing levels of maturity and independence affect both “honoring” and “obeying”? Do parents ever make demands their child cannot obey “in the Lord”? How important, at various ages, is it to obey your parent(s) when what they ask goes against your wishes, but not against God’s teachings?

Tuesday: Matthew 21:28-32

Jesus’ story contrasted a son who (insincerely) talked a good game with a son who ended up actually doing what his father asked. Which son, he asked, more authentically honored his father’s will? In what areas, if any, are you aware of a need to grow toward greater authenticity in your family or spiritual life?

Wednesday: Psalm 71:14-18, Proverbs 17:6

The fifth commandment specifically mentioned “father” and “mother.” Do you believe the principle behind the commandment extended to grandparents as well? Our culture delivers a steady stream of messages about the awfulness of growing older. Are there ways that signs of age lead you to think less, even subtly, of yourself or other people? In practical terms, what might it mean to honor your grandfather(s) and grandmother(s)?

Thursday: Mark 7:5-13

“Jewish people could vow and dedicate property to the temple (*corban* means “consecrated to God”). One could thus render property forbidden for others’ use. Some exploited the loophole that this practice created; one could dedicate for sacred use what instead should be used to care for aged parents.”* Are you aware of “loopholes” that people today may use to avoid caring for aging parents?

Friday: Isaiah 49:8-15, Matthew 23:37

It is easy to overlook one significance of the fifth commandment’s call to “honor your father and your mother.” In patriarchal societies (and at times in today’s divided families), children may want to honor one parent while ignoring or even trying to tear down the other one. How, when parents do not agree, can children still seek to creatively and honestly honor both parents, even when they may disagree with one (or both) of them?

MOVING FORWARD

The Hebrew word for honor means *heavy* or *weighty*. This means to treat something as important or significant. Part of what it means to treat our parents as important or significant is to obey them and to consider their needs, their feelings and what might bless them. However, most scholars believe that the fifth commandment’s primary intent was to ensure people cared for the elderly. The fifth commandment is calling us to care for older adults who have no one else.

*Answers to the sermon notes: IA) Honor, B) heavy. IIA) obedience, B) bless.
IIIA) mistreated, B) evil. IVA) elderly, B) no.*

*Keener, Craig S. and John H. Walton. “Mark.”. *NRSV, Cultural Backgrounds Study Bible: Bringing to Life the Ancient World of Scripture*. Zondervan, 2019.