

The 5th Commandment – Honor your Parents

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Oakbrook Community Church (PCA)

Exodus 20:12; Eph 6:1-4; Mt 15:1-9

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The 5th Commandment: Honor Your Father & Mother

- Not a popular command in our culture
- God deals with our horizontal relationships by starting with parent/child
- Exo 20-24: Same penalty for disobedience to parent as blasphemy, idolatry, worship of false gods: 21:12,15,16,17;22:18,19,20
- 1st 4 commands: Honor God; 5th honor parents - family foundation of society

Obedience Brings Blessing:

- Not a do this so you get promise but obedience to holy law is always best
- Command applied for believers in New Covenant: Ephesians 6:1-4

The Command Applied:

1. Children Caring for Older Parents

- God calls us to not neglect duties we have to parents as adults
- Mt 15:1-9 - Jesus called out Pharisees for unwillingness to care
- Beware the spirit of our age – let love & wisdom guide decisions

2. Parents maintain a proper relationship to Children

- Parents placed by God as being in authority, not peers of their children
- Role is delegated authority for God's glory, not personal benefit or gain
- Look to Triune God for model: Father, Son, Spirit – equal, but differing roles, Son glorifies Father by submitting, Spirit submits to Father & Son and brings glory to them by submitting
- Parent / Child relationship to be for the glory of God!

3. Children Rightly Relating to Parents

- Children are to honor, respect & obey parents
- Repeated multiple times: Col 3:20-21; Eph 6:1-4
- Disobedience to parents - litmus test of society: Rom 1:28-32; 2 Tim 3:1-5
- Rebellion against God's authorities is rebellion against God

4. But What About the Hard Cases?

- We live in a fallen world: abusive parents, drunk parents, etc.
- Don't fall for Satan's lie: their sin allows me to sin – look to God & His grace and seek to honor Him as far as it depends upon you Rom 12:18

Remember Our Hope – Look to the Power of the Gospel!

- Hebrews 12:2 - Even Jesus was raised by sinful parents, but He didn't sin!
- Always seek Biblical truth to guide your relationship; Word, godly counsel
- Never forget forgiveness you have in Christ so you can extend it Mt 6:12

Four Important G Truths to help Live in the power of Christ

1. God is Great so I don't have to be in control

- Saying God is sovereign is not enough, you must act on that truth
- Worry & anxiety show we don't believe God is in control or He needs our help
- our little g god = God is not great, I must control things
- Believe God is Great (Large & in Charge) - rest & repent of having to control parents, children, circumstances or the future!

2. God is Glorious so I don't have to fear others

- We often sin because we crave the approval/acceptance of parents/children
- Bible calls this "Fear of Man" Pr 29:25
- God is Glorious (more weighty than anything); He has commanded us to honor (give weight to) parents so we can do that!
- our little g god = God is not most glorious, something else is
- Believe your Glorious God loved you & laid down His life for you
Rm 5:8; 8:31; 1 Jn 3:16

3. God is Good so I don't have look elsewhere for satisfaction

- God created us needy: hunger, thirst, exhaustion, love, acceptance, etc.
- We come into the world needy; we often leave very needy – look to God!
- our little g god = this thing or person will provide satisfaction
- Only Jesus satisfies hunger of soul (Jn 6:35), and gives us rest (Mt 11:25)
- Only God is good and loves you - Rom 8:31-39

4. God is Gracious so I don't have to prove myself

- We all try to 'gain approval' from God, others, self, parents
- God's grace is simple to understand but hard to grasp!
- Our world wrongly teaches strive to DO to define who you ARE
- God's grace declares we ARE because of God's grace, not by our DO
- our little g god = If I DO then God will accept me
- Rm 5:8; Eph 1:3-6 We are accepted in the Beloved (Accepted by His grace)

Think & Discuss:

- **What is hardest/easiest for you about this command?**
- **How does the Gospel help? How can other believers help you remember these truths as you walk in community together?**
- **Do you have a hard case? Is God sovereign? Have you fallen for Satan's lie that you are excused from obedience to God?**