

4. What the command is NOT saying:

- a. O _____ your father and mother.
- b. L _____ your father and mother.

5. What the command is saying:

- a. Stay C _____.
- b. Honoring is not an emotion but a treatment: Treat your parents with R _____, G _____ and S _____. Don't...
- c. See God behind the design of parenthood and family. By honoring your parents you honor God.

Commentaries and resources used in preparation of this message: The New International Commentary on the Old Testament, The Book of Proverbs, by Bruce K. Waltke; Moses and the Gods of Egypt, by John J. Davis; The Message of Deuteronomy, by Raymond Brown; several recorded messages by Timothy Keller

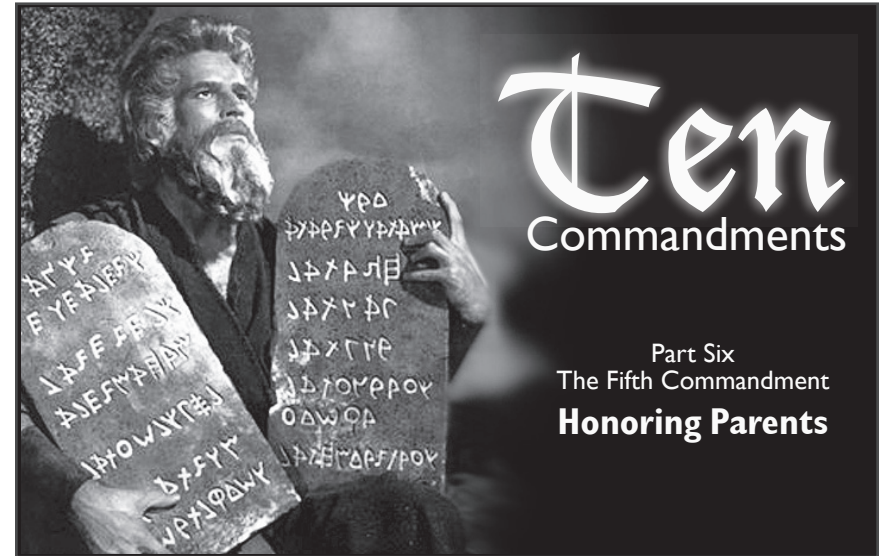
Suggested Questions for Small Groups

1. Do you see a connection today between the health of our society and the well-being of our families? Are we strong, needing improvement or what?
2. How connected are you to your family? Have you experienced the binding power of loyalty and love in this covenant relationship?
3. Read again Proverbs 23:13-14 and the notes supplied. What is the motivation for Biblical discipline of a child? Why are parents obligated to discipline and why would we often side-step that obligation?
4. What is the number one thing we parents need to instruct and reenforce in training our children (see Prov. 23:15-19)?
5. What motivates a child to obey his/her parent?
6. What is your response to the teaching that the command does not require us to "obey" or to "love" our parent?
7. How do you treat your parents with honor?

Next Sunday, May 30, 2010: **Ten Commandments**

Part 7 Thou shalt not murder

Travis Marsh, speaking



How to Obey the Fifth Commandment:

Exodus 20:12 "Honor your father and your mother, that your days may be long in the land that the Lord your God is giving you."

I. God makes a critically important connection in the fifth of His commandments: He connects the well-being of the whole S _____ with the health of the F _____.

Deut. 5:16 "Honor your father and your mother, as the Lord your God commanded you, that your days may be long, and that it may go well with you in the land that the Lord your God is giving you."

Exodus 21:17 "Whoever curses his father or his mother shall be put to death."

Deut. 27:16 "Cursed be anyone who dishonors his father or his mother. And all the people shall say, 'Amen.'"

2. The command is given to: A _____ C _____.

3. The command indicates God's design for the Family:

a. Family is a place of C _____, loyalty and love.

Proverbs 23:22-24 Listen to your father who gave you life, and do not despise your mother when she is old. ²³Buy truth, and do not sell it; buy wisdom, instruction, and understanding. ²⁴The father of the righteous will greatly rejoice; he who fathers a wise son will be glad in him. ²⁵Let your father and mother be glad; let her who bore you rejoice.

b. Family is a place of training, instruction and

D _____.

Deut. 6:1-2, 4-7

"Now this is the commandment, the statutes and the rules that the Lord your God commanded me to teach you, that you may do them in the land to which you are going over, to possess it, ² that you may fear the Lord your God, you and your son and your son's son, by keeping all his statutes and his commandments, which I command you, all the days of your life, and that your days may be long.

⁴"Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one. ⁵You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might. ⁶And these words that I command you today shall be on your heart. ⁷You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise.

Ephesians 6:1-4

Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. ²"Honor your father and mother" (this is the first commandment with a promise), ³ "that it may go well with you and that you may live long in the land." ⁴ Fathers, do not provoke your children to anger, but bring them up in the discipline and instruction of the Lord.

Prov. 23:13-14

Do not withhold discipline from a child; if you strike him with a rod, he will not die. ¹⁴ If you strike him with the rod, you will save his soul from Sheol.

Proverbs. 13:24

Whoever spares the rod hates his son, but he who loves him is diligent to discipline him.

c. Family is a place of motivation that happens through both A _____ and D _____.

Prov. 23:15-21

My son, if your heart is wise, my heart too will be glad. ¹⁶ My inmost being will exult when your lips speak what is right. ¹⁷ Let not your heart envy sinners, but continue in the fear of the Lord all the day. ¹⁸ Surely there is a future, and your hope will not be cut off. ¹⁹ Hear, my son, and be wise, and direct your heart in the way. ²⁰ Be not among drunkards or among gluttonous eaters of meat, ²¹ for the drunkard and the glutton will come to poverty, and slumber will clothe them with rags.

Commentary on the Fifth Commandment in Proverbs 23

Proverbs 23:12-25

Apply your heart to instruction and your ear to words of knowledge.

¹³ Do not withhold discipline from a child; if you strike him with a rod, he will not die.

¹⁴ If you strike him with the rod, you will save his soul from Sheol.

¹⁵ My son, if your heart is wise, my heart too will be glad.

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¹⁹ Hear, my son, and be wise, and direct your heart in the way. ²⁰ Be not among drunkards or among gluttonous eaters of meat, ²¹ for the drunkard and the glutton will come to poverty, and slumber will clothe them with rags.

²² Listen to your father who gave you life, and do not despise your mother when she is old.

²³ Buy truth, and do not sell it; buy wisdom, instruction, and understanding.

²⁴ The father of the righteous will greatly rejoice; he who fathers a wise son will be glad in him. ²⁵ Let your father and mother be glad; let her who bore you rejoice.

Apply your heart to instruction: This verse seems to begin a new section that gives commentary on the fifth commandment. These verses are pleas directed from the writer/father to the youth - the plea focuses on the child's 'heart' and it's habits.

withhold discipline: Why would a parent withhold discipline from their child who has done wrong? The writer here connects corporal punishment with saving a child from death - saving his soul from Sheol. This connection is also made in 13:24 and 19:18. Note: The writer is not saying "from" the flogging he will not die, but rather he is saying "because" of the discipline he will be (14) saved. The intent of Biblical discipline is to prevent the repetition of folly. Punishment is not cruel if it preserves life and soul. Lack of discipline can be cruel (13:24) - it demonstrates that there is a lack of love for your child. The discipline here has nothing to do with brutality or unloving anger.

if your heart is wise my heart too will be glad: The great reward for the parent instructor: Your child accepts your instruction and their hearts grow wise and their spoken words give evidence of inner wisdom. The single greatest motive for a child to adopt "the fear of the Lord" and wisdom is because he/she wants to remain in joyful connection with their parents/family. Parents motivate their children with what brings them joy.

envy sinners but continue in the fear of the Lord: Sinners are a rival voice/influence to children. Sinners have heart aspirations opposite to "the fear of the Lord". But the hope followers of God have (18) is that the future

Hear, ... be wise... direct your heart: The father pleas for his son to listen to him, not do his peers or to sinners. To hear and be wise and to "direct your heart" all take concentrated effort of the will. To envy sinners, to be in the company of drunkards and the gluttonous is to associate with the self-indulgent and delinquent who fill their bodies but empty their heads. Those who make light of what is serious are fools who will come to poverty and destruction.

who gave you life: These few verses focus in on the whole of the parenting relationship - from a mother "who bore you" (25) and a father "who gave your life" to your parents becoming "old" (22). The span of life will move from an infant to a child seeing their parents getting old.

Listen... do not despise: The instruction to adult children is to keep on listening and to not let go of the truth, wisdom, instruction and understanding that has been purchased over the many years of the relationship.

Let your father and mother be glad: Children who live a life of wisdom and righteousness that has been imparted to them by their parents, bring great joy to these parents.