



Honor Authority

7th in the “10 Commandments” Series

Exodus 20:12 & Mark 3:31-35

February 27, 2022

Pastor Mickey Klink

Introduction

In this passage we learn about the fifth of the Ten Commandments.

The Text:

Exodus 20:12

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

Mark 3:31-35

³¹ And his mother and his brothers came, and standing outside they sent to him and called him. ³² And a crowd was sitting around him, and they said to him, “Your mother and your brothers are outside, seeking you.” ³³ And he answered them, “Who are my mother and my brothers?” ³⁴ And looking about at those who sat around him, he said, “Here are my mother and my brothers! ³⁵ For whoever does the will of God, he is my brother and sister and mother.”

1. The fifth commandment requires us to honor the authority of our father and mother.
2. The fifth commandment demands that Christians honor, love, and be loyal to all the authorities assigned to them by God.

Westminster Catechism Larger 124:

Q: Who are meant by father and mother in the fifth commandment?

A: By father and mother, in the fifth commandment, are meant, not only natural parents, but all superiors in age and gifts; and especially such as, by God's ordinance, are over us in place of authority, whether in family, church, or commonwealth.

Heidelberg Catechism 104:

Q: What is God's will for you in the fifth commandment?

A: That I honor, love, and be loyal to my father and mother and all those in authority over me; that I submit myself with proper obedience to all their good teaching and discipline; and also that I be patient with their failings—for through them God chooses to rule us.

3. The fifth commandment shepherds us to see that Christ is both the one who honored the Father and through whom we honor our authorities.

APP: What does obeying the fifth commandment look like?

- (1) Honor authority in the home (natural family).
- (2) Honor authority in the church (supernatural family).
- (3) Honor authority in society.

Response

Lord, help us to honor you by the way we honor the authorities you have placed over us.

Sunday Text Questions for (Ten Commandments Series)

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- 1) Starter Question: What thoughts come to mind when you think about your mom and your dad?
- 2) Read the text aloud and discuss together any significant observations or issues needing clarification.
- 3) Honor means to give due “weight” to a person, their “office” and their service (i.e., reverence, obedience, and gratitude). In light of this, how might a person “honor” their father and mother?
- 4) How might the fifth commandment apply to a pre-adult, a young person still living at home?
- 5) How might the fifth commandment apply to an adult who no longer lives with or financially relies on their mom and dad?
- 6) Why might it be significant that this commandment ends with a promise of blessing to the person who obeys this commandment (see Ephesians 6:1-2)?
- 7) The historic confession of the church broadens the fifth commandment to apply to all human authorities, not just parents. How might Mark 3:31-35, for example, broaden our understanding of “father and mother?”
- 8) Read Romans 13:1-7. How does the fifth commandment also apply to governing authorities?
- 9) What situations in the home, church, or society might make it hard to obey the fifth commandment?
- 10) In what ways should you be more intentional in obeying the fifth commandment in your family, in your church, or in response to the governing authorities assigned by God over you?

Further study this week: Passages related to the fifth commandment: Deuteronomy 21:18-21 (Mon); Exodus 21:15, 17 (Tues); Ezekiel 22:6-8 (Wed); Ephesians 6:1-3 (Thurs); Mark 7:9-13 (Fri).