

“STRONG FAMILIES: HONORING MY PARENTS”

Introduction: THE FOURTH COMMANDMENT

- The average marriage in America lasts _____ years.

Exodus 20:12 (GOD): “HONOR YOUR FATHER AND YOUR MOTHER.

Martin Luther: What does this mean? We should fear and love God so that we do not despise or anger our parents and other authorities, but honor them, serve and obey them, love and cherish them.

THREE REASONS GOD GAVE THIS COMMANDMENT

1. THERE ARE NO _____ PARENTS

- God commands you to honor the _____ of parent.

2. RESPECT FOR _____ BEGINS AT HOME

- To a judge you say “Your Honor” – to respect the _____.

3. HOW I RELATE TO MY PARENTS AFFECTS EVERY _____

- Parent-child relating is a major _____ factor in life

THREE STAGES OF LIFE AND HOW TO SHOW HONOR

1. As a child – I honor my parents by _____ and _____ them.

Ephesians 6:1 (LB) “Children, obey your parents; this is the right thing to do because God has placed them in authority over you.”

- Obey means do what they say _____ and _____.

2. As a young person – I honor my parents by _____ and _____ them.

Proverbs 23:22 (NIV) “Listen to your father who gave you your life and do not despise your mother...”

- Acceptance means:
 1. Realizing that God used your parents to _____.
 2. _____ to what they have to say.
 - Disagree without being _____.
 - _____
 3. _____ the hurts
 - Bitterness is _____.

Deuteronomy 26:11 (TEV) “Be grateful for the good things that the Lord has given you and your family...”

Proverbs 23:32 (TEV) “When your mother is old, show her your appreciation.”

3. As an adult, I honor my parents by _____ and not _____ them.

Proverbs 3:27 (NIV) “Do not withhold good from those who deserve it, when it is in your power to act.”

- Affirm by _____.
- Affirm by _____.
- Affirm by _____.

I Timothy 5:8 (LB) “Anyone who won't care for his own relatives when they need help, especially his own family, has no right to say he is a Christian. Such a person is worse than the heathen.”

I Timothy 5:4 (NIV) “They should...put their religion into practice by caring for their own family and so repaying their parents and grandparents, for this is pleasing to God.”

CONCLUSION: IF YOU WERE ABANDONED...

Psalm 27:10 (TEV) "My father and mother may abandon me, but the Lord will take care of me."

- You have a _____.
- You have a _____ family.
- Your Heavenly Father has a _____.

FOR A REASON

You are who you are – for a reason.
You're part of an intricate plan.
You are a precious, perfect, unique design,
Called God's special woman or man.

You look like you look – for a reason.
God made no mistake.
He knit you together within the womb.
You're just what He wanted to make.

The parents you had are – for a reason,
No matter how you may feel.
You are custom designed with that in mind.
They bear the Master's seal.

The trauma you faced was – for a reason.
And God wept that it hurt you so.
But it was allowed to shape your heart.
So that into His likeness you'd grow.

You are who you are – for a reason.
You've been formed by the Master's rod.
You are who you are, beloved,
Because there is a God.