

GOSPEL COMMUNITY GUIDE

Life WITH God : The Ten Commandments

Exodus 20:13 | August 31, 2025



CONNECT

What's one lesson or habit you picked up from your parents (or a parent-figure) that has actually stuck with you?

QUICK UPDATES

Share any upcoming church events and handle housekeeping for the Gospel Community.

REVIEW

Have someone read the passage out loud from the ESV translation or something similar. Reflect on any insights, questions, or parts that stood out from the text or the sermon. Then read the sermon summary below.

The fifth commandment shows us that God designed the family as the foundation of society, and honoring our parents is the starting point for a flourishing community. Parents are called to shepherd their children toward God, and children of every age are called to honor their parents; with obedience as kids, gratitude as adults, and care as they age. Where sin has fractured our families, Jesus redeems, giving us a new spiritual family in the church and grace to walk in forgiveness, honor, and love.

LEARN & LIVE

These questions help us grasp the truth of the passage and consider how to live it out.

- Why do you think God placed the command to honor parents before “do not kill” or “do not steal”? What does that say about the home’s role in society?
- How does Exodus 20:12 connect back to God’s original design in Eden?
- What does the word “honor” (kabod: weighty respect) actually mean, and how is it different from just obeying?
- What responsibilities has God given to parents according to Deuteronomy 6 and Ephesians 6:4?
- Why is it important that fathers and mothers share this responsibility together?
- What are some cultural “Egypt” models of parenting that miss God’s design?
- In what practical ways can children (0–18) honor their parents while under their roof?
- For young adults building their own lives, what does honoring parents look like?
- How can those with aging parents honor them in tangible, Christ-reflecting ways?
- How does honoring parents display God’s wisdom and lead to flourishing for future generations?

GO DEEPER

These questions invite us to slow down and wrestle with what’s going on beneath the surface. Use these to go a little deeper or in your Huddle Groups.

- What makes honoring parents difficult in our culture today?
- How do your own experiences with your parents (good or bad) shape the way you hear this command?
- Where have you seen the enemy attack the family in ways that affected you personally?
- If you had ungodly or unbelieving parents, what does it look like for you to honor them “in the Lord”?
- How does Jesus’ perfect obedience as the true Son reshape how we understand our failures as children and parents?
- What fears or idols might keep parents from shepherding their children toward Jesus (e.g., achievements, moralism, image)?
- How might caring for aging parents be one of the most countercultural witnesses to the gospel today?

- How does belonging to the church as God's family bring healing where our family of origin has left wounds?
- What does this commandment reveal about God's heart for authority, order, and blessing?
- How is the Spirit inviting you personally to respond to this word today?

PRAY

- Pray about one way God spoke to you tonight through His Word.
- Pray by name for someone in your life who doesn't yet know Jesus.
- Pray for the needs of those in the group.
- Pray for this ministry area of Redeemer: **REDEEMER KIDS** | Take time to pray for the children of Redeemer and their relationship with Christ as they enter a new school year.

5 GROUP DISCUSSION RULES

We want to be full of grace as we meet, deepening our relationship with one another and with Christ. These five values help us know our **P.L.A.C.E.** in our GC's and Huddles.

1. **Pray** - Prayer is a space for confession, struggle, and praise. Keep requests focused on yourself and your immediate family, so we can pray specifically and personally.
2. **Listen** - Be present and attentive. Share with humility, be mindful of time, and remember: silence is okay.
3. **Apply** - Answer honestly. Consider how God's Word speaks into your life, and what it might look like to respond.
4. **Confess** - Confession and repentance are signs of maturity. We meet one another with grace, not shame.
5. **Encourage** - Practical advice is helpful, but truth is better. Speak the gospel into each other's hearts and stories.

COMMENTARY EXCERPT:

20:12 Fifth commandment.

The concept of honouring is usually associated with God or his representatives, prophets and kings. In all likelihood parents were envisaged as representing God to their children; the family unit being a miniature of the nation. The seriousness of this commandment is reflected in the fact that the death penalty was required for children who wilfully disrespected their parents (Ex. 21:15, 17). If parents, as authority figures within the home, are respected by children, then respect for authority figures within society at large will also follow.

Alexander, T. D. (1994). Exodus. In D. A. Carson, R. T. France, J. A. Motyer, & G. J. Wenham (Eds.), New Bible commentary: 21st century edition (4th ed., pp. 107–108). Inter-Varsity Press.