

2021.05.09 Sunday Sermon <Honor Your Parents>

Deuteronomy 5:16

"Honor your father and your mother, as the Lord your God has commanded you, so that you may live long and that it may go well with you in the land the Lord your God is giving you.

Matthew 15:1-6

¹*Then some Pharisees and teachers of the law came to Jesus from Jerusalem and asked, ²"Why do your disciples break the tradition of the elders? They don't wash their hands before they eat!"*

³*Jesus replied, "And why do you break the command of God for the sake of your tradition?" ⁴For God said, 'Honor your father and mother'^[a] and 'Anyone who curses their father or mother is to be put to death.'^[b] ⁵But you say that if anyone declares that what might have been used to help their father or mother is 'devoted to God,' ⁶they are not to 'honor their father or mother' with it. Thus you nullify the word of God for the sake of your tradition.*



Lord, thank you for our parents!

In today's scripture, we see the Pharisees and teachers of the law come to criticize the disciples of not washing their hands. When Jesus sees what is happening, this is how he responds to them...

Matthew 15:3

Jesus replied, "And why do you break the command of God for the sake of your tradition?"

Jesus continues to teach the Pharisees what is more important than keeping their traditions.

Matthew 15: 4

For God said, 'Honor your father and mother' and 'Anyone who curses their father or mother is to be put to death.'

When we look at the Old Testament, we see the Lord's words about honoring our parents. However, the Pharisees and teachers of the law are not following the word of God.

Deuteronomy 5:16

"Honor your father and your mother, as the Lord your God has commanded you, so that you may live long and that it may go well with you in the land the Lord your God is giving you.

Exodus 21:17

"Anyone who curses their father or mother is to be put to death.

Let's continue on with today's scripture.

Matthew 15:5

But you say that if anyone declares that what might have been used to help their father or mother is 'devoted to God,'

Matthew 15:6

they are not to 'honor their father or mother' with it. Thus you nullify the word of God for the sake of your tradition.

Mark 7:11

*But you say that if anyone declares that what might have been used to help their father or mother is **Corban** (that is, devoted to God)*

Jesus teaches the Pharisees to wake-up and see what is more important in life. Let us learn how to honor and respect our parents that will please God.

1. Honor Your Parents with Your Heart



It is most important to honor our parents with our whole heart. In the bible Isaac is one of the sons who truly honored his parents with his whole heart. When we look at Genesis 22, we see how Lord was so pleased with Isaac and provided great blessings.

The word mother brings many emotions to our hearts. It is a word that can bring tears to our eyes when we cry out three times.

There was a Sunday School presentation. A mother came up in the front row to see her son say "I am the light of the world." The little boy forgot his lines and the mother gestured and formed the words silently with her lips. The boy takes the cue and says "My mother is the light of the world."

On this Mother's Day Sunday, the Lord is teaching us and reminding us to honor parents so that *they* will be happy.

2. Honor Your Parents with Your Body



Aside from their hearts being pleased, we also need to honor our parents and make sure they are physically happy.

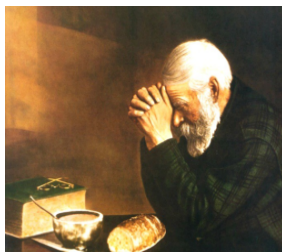
When we look at Genesis 41, we see Joseph honoring his father by sending so many gifts to his father from Egypt.

The word mother is a beautiful word and many people can agree. When we look back, we see our mothers giving up so many things to make us happy.

In summer of 1987, there was a major plane accident in Detroit MI and killed all six crew members and 148 of its 149 passengers. The sole survivor was a 4-year old girl name Cecilia. When rescuers found Cecilia they did not believe she had been on the plane. Investigators first assumed Cecilia had been a passenger in one of the cars on the highway onto which the airliner crashed. But when the passenger register for the flight was checked, there was Cecilia's name. Cecilia survived because, even as the plane was falling, Cecilia's mother, Paula Cichan, unbuckled her own seat belt, got down on her knees in front of her daughter, wrapped her arms and body around Cecilia, and then would not let her go.

We may not have experienced the same accident as Cecilia. However, we can imagine what our parents would do to make sure we are happy. As many of us are grown-ups and have family of our own, we need to ask... are we doing the same to make our parents happy? While they are still alive, we need to make sure we honor our parents. Do not regret later and say if only...

3. Honor Your Parents with Your Soul



Aside from making sure our parents are mentally and physically happy...we need to make sure their souls are happy. If our parents do not believe in the Lord and Jesus Christ, we need to make sure they are saved.

There was a 19-year old girl who had a strong faith. Her father on the other hand was a felon who stabbed others to steal their belongings. One day, she followed her father. Her father not recognizing her daughter ended up stabbing her and stealing her bag. When he opened the bag he saw a letter written by his daughter...

Forgive me father. The person you stabbed is your own daughter. Have you thought about the pain of the family and parents of the person you stab? Even if I die now, I am ready to go to heaven, so I chose this path for the last time. Please repent and believe in Jesus and hope to see you in Heaven.

After reading this letter, he walked into the police station and was sentenced to life imprisonment. After becoming a believer in Christ, he was out of prison after 20 years.

In Summary:

Our Lord and Jesus Christ remind us to honor our parents? How?

1. *With our hearts*
2. *With our body*
3. *With our soul*

My father-in-law passed away recently. In one of many conversations he said following, "I am ready to head to heaven. I am thankful even if I am not healed."

We need to pray for our parents and make sure they are prepared to head to heaven above. We also need to honor our parents so that they are physically and mentally happy.

A Story of Father and Son

A child came back from Sunday School and he was eagerly reciting the ten commandments. The father noticed that he was reciting the fifth commandment wrong and kept repeating, "Attack your parents." The father corrects the son and the son asks, "What is the difference between attack and honor?" The father answers, "attack means not listen well and not honoring the parents." The son responds, "How come you attack grandfather? This story makes us think and makes us ask ourselves...*are we truly honoring our parents?*

Ephesians 6:2-3

"Honor your father and mother"—which is the first commandment with a promise—³ "so that it may go well with you and that you may enjoy long life on the earth."