

**Title:** Honor Your Parents

**Text: 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.”*

**Target:** Raising children, empty nesters, yet to have children, or not wanting children, we are all children of someone. Today’s message is more than just about compliance, it is about alignment.

I. **The Relevance of this Command:**

- A. **The Invention of the Family:** Genesis 1:27-28
- B. **The Importance of the Family:** The family is the foundational institution of society ordained by God. Genesis 2:20-25, 4:1. Exodus 20:5-6, Joshua 7:10,15,24-25, 2 Kings 13:23.
- C. **The Instruction towards the Family:**
  - 1. **Treasure them:** Psalm 127:3
  - 2. **Teach them:** Deuteronomy 6:6, 2 Timothy 3:15-16
  - 3. **Train them:** Proverbs 22:6 \*Ephesians 6:4
  - 4. **Testify to them:** Titus 2:7, James 1:22

II. **The Requirement in this Command:**

- A. **Explanation of Honor:** Give Weight or Glory
- B. **Expectation of Honor:**
  - 1. **Obedience:** Recognizing Authority
    - a) Ephesians 6:1
    - b) Colossians 3:20
  - 2. **Respect:** Recognizing Attitude (Phil 2:14)
- C. **Examples of Honor:** *outdo one another with honor*
  - 1. **Forgive them:** They are not perfect
  - 2. **Encourage them:** They are not teflon
  - 3. **Speak Well of them:** Do not belittle them
  - 4. **Seek Wisdom from them:** Their life experiences
  - 5. **Care for them:** They have needs too.

III. **The Revelation in this Command:**

- A. **Bridge Command: Connecting** - 1-4: Love God & 6-10: Love People
- B. **Blanket Command: Covering** - speaks to the way we should relate to all authority.
- C. **Blessed Command: Covenant** - *“Honor your father and mother” (this is the first commandment with a promise)* Ephesians 6:2

**Takeaway:** No nation is stronger than the family structure that makes them up. As goes the home, so goes the nation, the community, the church.