X COMMANDMENTS

HONOR YOUR PARENTS

GROW GUIDE

You radically love God by honoring your father and mother!

DEFINE HONOR

SIMPLE DEFINITION OF HONOR: To assign heaven's value.

HONOR

- A biblical ***command*** (Exodus 20:12, Deuteronomy 5:16, Matthew 15:4)
- Brings ***pleasure*** to the Lord (Colossians 3:20)
- Honor unlocks ***God's promises***
- Honor is ***practical, sacrificial, & covenantal***

DISHONOR

- Brings ***rebellion*** and opens the door to demons (1 Samuel 15:23, Proverbs 17:11)
- Allows ***curses and destruction***
- Dishonor ***shuts down*** God's promises
- ***Rejects*** God's order and authority

The **kingdom of God** is governed by *honor* and the **demonic** is governed by *dishonor*.

THREE FAMILY DYNAMICS

1. Children need to be taught to obey.

Love and discipline are inseperable.

Loving discipline is correction that trains in love, not punishment in anger.

LOVING DISCIPLINE: BIBLICAL

- Rooted in love (Hebrews 12:6)
- Uses instruction, patience & consequences to teach
- Trains for *righteousness* (Proverbs 22:6)
- Shapes character & protects destiny
- Measured & consistent
- **Restores** relationship
- Produces peaceful fruit of righteousness (Hebrews 12:11
- Reflects *God's character*

ABUSIVE DISCIPLINE: WORLDLY

- Rooted in **anger**
- Uses fear, anger & intimidation to control behavior
- Punishes, vents emotions, dominates & breaks the spirit of a child
- Inconsistent: harsh one moment, passive the next
- **Damages** relationship: child feels rejected, unloved or fearful
- Produces fear, resentment, rebellion or shame
- Reflects *man's flesh*: wrath, neglect or abuse

Loving discipline corrects the child's behavior while keeping the child's heart.

FAMILY DYNAMICS

2. Parents need to learn how to lead.

Discipline without love is abuse; *love without discipline* is neglect.

HOW PARENTS PROVOKE CHILDREN:

- Inconsistency (James 1:8)
- Harshness (Proverbs 15:1)
- Neglect (1 Timothy 5:8)
- Favoritism (James 2:1)
- Unrealistic demands (Colossians 3:21)
- Hypocrisy (Matthew 23:3)
- Withholding affirmation (Ephesians 4:29)

BIBLICAL WAYS TO TRAIN CHILDREN:

- Consistency (Proverbs 29:17)
- Gentleness (Galatians 6:1)
- Presence (Deuteronomy 6:6-7)
- Fairness (Proverbs 11:1)
- Encouragement (1 Thessalonians 5:11)
- Integrity (Proverbs 20:7)
- Affection (1 John 3:18)

Provoking a child is parenting in a way that stirs up anger, bitterness, or discouragement instead of training them in love and truth

3. Children obey and adult children honor.

Obedience is for childhood. Honor is for life.

Dedicated Christ followers must honor their parents (Colossians 3:20)

CHILDREN WHO HONORED PARENTS RECIEVED BLESSING:

- Ruth (Ruth 1:16-17)
- Solomon (1 Kings 2:19)
- Jesus (Luke 2:51)

CHILDREN WHO DISHONORED PARENTS RECIEVED CURSES/DESTRUCTION:

- Esau (Genesis 26:34-35)
- Absalom (2 Samuel 15-18)
- Hophni & Phinehas (1 Samuel 2:12-17,25)

Adult children are commanded to honor through respect and care (Ephesians 6:2-3)

Dishonor provoked a curse (Genesis 9:24-25)

Honor released a blessing

Jesus covered our sin & shame (Hebrews 12:2)

At the cross, Jesus covers what sin has exposed!

APPLICATION

QUESTIONS FOR YOURSELF:

- In what ways does my home need to be brought into order?
- How have I responded to the failures of authority figures in my life?
- Where do I need to set boundaries in order to keep my relationships healthy?

QUESTIONS FOR GOD:

- Where am I not honoring my parents?
- In what way can I choose restoration and honor toward my parents?
- How has my relationship with my parents affected my relationship with You?

QUESTIONS FOR OTHERS:

- Do you know the love of Jesus that covers all shame?
- How have you felt the loving discipline of the Lord?
- Where have you seen rebellion operating in your life or the life of others?

STEWARDING THE 5TH COMMANDMENT:

- **Ask** the Holy Spirit how to honor your parents when they have hurt you.
- **Seek** to walk in radical love in order to honor God.
- **Intercede** on behalf of your parents and your children.
- **Pray** the prayer of radical love everyday.

PRAYER OF RADICAL LOVE.

Father, I really do love You. I call You Holy, You call me Beloved! Thank You for loving me. Today I love on You. Would You love on me? Your love is perfect. I want to love like You! Help me love my neighbor and my enemy. Teach me how to war in love. I pray the love of God casts out all fear. Shame, go! Glory of God come fill me. Holy Spirit help me to love what You love and hate what You hate. I choose to obey You today! Lord, I love You with all of my heart, soul, mind and strength. I pray today to encounter Your radical love! Amen.