

“The BIG TEN ~ 5th commandment” 5.9.10

Happy Mother’s Day!

Here’s some INTERESTING FACTS about MOMS!

- 4.3 Babies are born each second ☺
- 25 is the average age of new moms; in 1970 it was 21.
- 40% of all births are the mother’s 1st little baby ☺
- Only about 10% of women have 4 or more children today; in 1976 36% of women had 4 or more children.
- August is the most popular Birth Month.
- Tuesday is the most popular day of the week to have a baby.
- 10 Million is the number of single mothers living with children under 18 years old. This number is up from 3 Million in 1970.
- 105 BOYS are born to every 100 GIRLS

Mom’s to do list vs. Dad’s to do list @ home:

- Moms average 2.2 hrs per day on chores vs. 1.3 hrs per day for Dad’s.
- 88% of laundry is done by moms totaling 330 loads of laundry & 5,300 articles of clothing each year.
- The least favorite chore for moms is vacuuming the stairs.
- A baby has 7,300 diaper changes by it’s 2nd birthday.
- Moms take 2 min & 5 sec to change a diaper vs. 1 min & 36 sec for dads.
 - For moms, this adds up (3)=40 hr work weeks each year; changing diapers.
- Preschoolers require her attention once every (4) minutes or (210 x’s day).

Mommy World Records that are just waiting to be broken ☺

- Mrs. Vassilyev of Russia gave birth to 69 children between 1725 & 1766.
- Rosanna Dalla Corte gave birth to a baby boy at 63 yrs old in Italy in 1994
- Signora Carmelina Fedele gave birth to a 22lb 8 oz boy in Italy in 1955 ☺

Happy Mother’s Day ☺

Today, we are going to unpack the 5th commandment.

This familiar command goes far-beyond grade-schoolers honoring their parents.

- I. 5th commandment ~ “Honor your father & mother.”
 - A. (R) Exodus 20: 12 or p. 59 in pew Bible
 - B. Define HONOR:
 1. Sometimes we relegate the word HONOR to simply mean respect; while respect is an element of this verb, it does not encompass its entire meaning.
 - a. To respect your parents’ means to hold them high esteem.
 - b. To HONOR your parents means that we are to take our parents seriously with our attitudes & actions.
 2. INSERT illustration of (2) sets of dishes:

Before we go any further please understand the 5th commandment is not limited to immature & dependent children but also includes adults independent & mature.

The 5th commandment, "Honor your father & mother," is cyclical in its translation:

Allow God's word to explain.

II. Honoring parents @ every Life-stage

A. 1st Life-stage = Early Childhood

1. (R) Ephesians 6: 1-3 or p. 898 in pew Bible
 - a. The pagan cultures of Paul's day & ours are marked by children's disobedience to their parents; placing them under God's judgment.
 - b. (R) II Timothy 3: 1 – 2 or p. 915 in pew Bible
2. God established a very serious punishment for disobedient children.
 - a. (R) Deuteronomy 21: 18-21 or 5th book in the O.T.
 - b. INSERT Human Relations Commission
3. NOW child-abuse is strongly condemned in the Bible:
 - a. (R) Matthew 18: 5 – 7 or 748 in pew Bible
 - b. Bible says, there's hell to pay for anybody who would abuse a child; it's simply inexcusable on any level.
 - c. To HONOR parents during this 1st Life-stage looks like:

A child who is firmly taught that being defiant + disrespectful to elders is dishonoring to parents & God.

B. 2nd Life-stage = Adolescents

- Define Adolescents = Biological development starting with puberty & concluding with maturity.
 1. Pursuing HONOR parents @ this Life-stage is different than childhood.
 2. Obedience is the act ~ HONOR is the attitude.
 - a. Submission is obedience ~ loving submission is HONOR.
 3. This Life-stage includes those who are college age down thru Jr. High.
 - a. Those children living under the umbrella of their parents' authority are to HONOR their parents.
 - b. I take this to include step-parents, legal guardians, & foster parents.
 4. Honoring parents @ this Life-stage looks like:
 - a. 1st time obedience ~ no one should make your parents ask you to do something 10 times before you comply.
 - i. The only time you are not to obey your parents is when they ask you to do something that is contrary to the Bible~scripture.

- ii. Otherwise, you obey even if it seems unreasonable or you don't understand.
- iii. A teenager upset because of the domination of his mother wrote a letter to Ann Landers:

"I am 15 yrs old & my biggest problem is my mother. All she does is nag, nag, nag from morning until night. It's like, "Turn off the T.V. + Do your homework. + Wash your neck. + Stand up straight. + Go clean up your room."How can I get her off my case?

Signed = PICK, PICK,PICK

Here's Ann Lander's response ☺

"Dear Picky,

"Turn off the T.V. Do your homework. Wash your neck. Stand up straight. Go clean your room." = 1st time response

- b. Honor your parents by...Telling the Truth.
 - i. Don't be deceptive ~ why lie and destroy trust & confidence?
 - ii. Proverbs 12: 22, "The Lord detests lying lips, but He delights in those who tell the truth."
- c. (1) last thought;
Honor your parents by...Speaking well of them behind their backs.
 - i. This is a hard one @ times; just refuse not to take cheap shots at your parents.
 - ii. Have fun with them ~ fill them in on the latest technology; I can't begin to tell you how antiquated I am when it comes to technology.
 - iii. Y2K = everyone was afraid that all the computers were going to crash not my family ☺
 - 1. Life was not going to be disturbed on the farm ☺
 - 2. Even to this day my parents don't have a computer; not an indictment on their intelligence; see no need for it
 - 3. Truthfully, we've only had wireless internet for (2) yrs
 - 4. I'm so backward ~ I've asked Keith Comp to be my Techno Mentor;

Probably for me the most neglected Life-stage of "Honoring our parents" comes in...

C. 3rd Life-stage = Adulthood

- The 5th commandment is the only command in the 'BIG TEN' where a blessing is attached to it if you obey it.
- Listen to it one more time. "Honor your... Then you will live a long life, full life."
 - NOT just a long life but 1 that is filled with God's presence & favor!
 - The Lord intends that honoring our parents lead to His blessing.

This command to honor parents applies to all of us after we leave home. Although the relationship changes, the responsibility to honor our parents continues all thru life.

Genesis 2: 24 says, when a man gets married to his wife 'he leaves his father & mother'. I take this to mean you don't have to obey them anymore.

However, the responsibility to honor parents is ongoing. Proverbs 23: 22, "Listen to your father's advise, who gave you life, & don't despise your mother when she is old."

- As life expectancy rises in the Western world & the average age of the population rises proportionately; an increasing number of old & infirmed people are neglected & even forgotten by their own children.
- This painful phenomenon is largely confined to our western culture.
- In Africa & Asia the extended family always finds room for the elderly.
- I think we would do well to remember Paul's words in I Timothy 5: 8;

"But those who won't care for their relatives, especially those in their own household, have denied the true faith. Such people are worse than unbelievers."

"Honoring our parents" at this Life-stage looks like:

- Making sure that they have adequate housing & medical attention; sometimes it involves tough decisions based on what your parents need; NOT what you want or what looks good BUT what is best for them.
- Sometimes 'honoring our parents' looks like forgiveness. Some unspeakable abuse has happened to some of you; Some of you were abandoned; Some of you were neglected; nothing can change the past BUT God can change today; Extend grace to your aging parents ~ 1 investment you will never regret!
- Jesus b-4 He died on cross for our sins, His words were few; suffering was intense. In His darkest hour Jesus said to John, 'take care of my mother.'