

Giving Weight

A 7-Day Devotional Study on the Fifth Commandment

This guide takes about 15 minutes a day for one week. Each day has a short reading, a few questions to answer, and a prayer prompt. Read each passage in your own Bible and check it off. On Day 7, you'll put together a simple plan for honoring your parents this month.

MEMORY VERSE

"Honour thy father and mother; which is the first commandment with promise."

EPHESIANS 6:2

THIS WEEK

Day 1	What honor means
Day 2	Children obey
Day 3	Leaving home
Day 4	When parents grow old
Day 5	Hard families
Day 6	When faith divides a family
Day 7	The promise and the future
Extras	My honor plan · Family activity · Youth study · Answer notes

BEFORE YOU BEGIN: MY PRAYER FOR THIS WEEK



What honor means

READ

- ☐ Exodus 20:12 ☐ Exodus 21:17 ☐ Proverbs 23:22

RESPOND

1. The Hebrew word for “honor” means “heavy” or “weighty.” The word for “curse” in **Exodus 21:17** means “to make light of.” In your own words, what does it look like to give someone weight?

2. What are some everyday ways people “make light of” their parents without ever openly rebelling?

PRAY

Ask God to show you how you treat your parents’ words and role in your life.

MY PRAYER / NOTES FOR TODAY

Children obey

READ

☐ Ephesians 6:1-4 ☐ Colossians 3:20-21 ☐ Luke 2:41-52

RESPOND

3. Which word does **Ephesians 6:1** give to children, and which word does verse 2 give to everyone?

4. What limits does the phrase “in the Lord” place on a child’s obedience?

5. Jesus knew He had a Father in heaven, yet He “was subject unto” Mary and Joseph (**Luke 2:51**). What does that teach about humility?

PRAY

If you’re a parent, pray to be someone your children find easy to honor.

MY PRAYER / NOTES FOR TODAY



Leaving home

READ

- ☐ Genesis 2:24 ☐ Proverbs 23:22 ☐ Exodus 18:13-24

RESPOND

6. What changes in the parent-child relationship when someone marries, according to **Genesis 2:24**?

7. Moses was an adult leading a nation when Jethro gave him advice. How did Moses honor him without being ruled by him?

PRAY

Ask for wisdom in how you respond to counsel from parents or in-laws.

MY PRAYER / NOTES FOR TODAY

When parents grow old

READ

- ☐ Mark 7:9-13 ☐ 1 Timothy 5:4, 8 ☐ Ruth 1:15-18

RESPOND

8. What was “Corban,” and why did Jesus condemn using it?

9. How strongly does Paul speak about providing for family in 1 Timothy 5:8?

10. Ruth wasn’t obligated to care for Naomi. What made her choice an act of honor?

PRAY

Pray for a parent, grandparent, or older person who needs care.

MY PRAYER / NOTES FOR TODAY

Hard families

READ

- ☐ 1 Samuel 24:1-12 ☐ Genesis 9:20-23 ☐ Psalm 27:10 ☐ Romans 12:18

RESPOND

11. Saul tried to kill David. How did David keep his distance and still refuse to dishonor Saul?

12. How did Shem and Japheth respond differently from Ham to their father's failure?

13. What promise does **Psalm 27:10** give to someone whose parents failed them?

PRAY

Bring any hurt from your family to God honestly. Ask Him to be your Father where a parent fell short.

MY PRAYER / NOTES FOR TODAY



When faith divides a family

READ

☐ Acts 5:29 ☐ Matthew 10:34–37 ☐ Joshua 24:2–3, 15 ☐ 1 Peter 3:15

RESPOND

14. When a parent's wishes conflict with God's commands, whose authority comes first?

15. Abraham's father served other gods. What does that show about following God when your family doesn't?

16. If family events conflict with the Sabbath, what are some respectful ways to handle it?

PRAY

Pray for family members who don't share your faith, by name.

MY PRAYER / NOTES FOR TODAY



The promise and the future

READ

- ☐ Ephesians 6:3 ☐ Matthew 5:5 ☐ Revelation 21:1-4 ☐ Malachi 4:5-6

RESPOND

17. How does Paul restate the promise in **Ephesians 6:3**?

18. According to **Matthew 5:5** and **Revelation 21:1-4**, what land will God's children finally inherit?

19. What does the Elijah message in **Malachi 4:6** promise to do for families?

PRAY

Thank God for the family He has given you, and ask Him to turn hearts toward each other in your home.

MY PRAYER / NOTES FOR TODAY



My honor plan

Fill in one or two ideas for each parent or parent figure in your life this month.

PERSON	A WAY TO SHOW RESPECT IN WORDS	A WAY TO HELP OR CARE	SOMETHING I'M GRATEFUL FOR

HOW IT WENT



The honor coupon book

1. Read **Exodus 20:12** together. Explain that “honor” means treating someone as important.
2. Help your child make a small booklet of “coupons” for a parent or grandparent, such as “one table set without being asked,” “one big hug,” or “one drawing just for you.” Use the coupons below, or make your own.
3. Read **Luke 2:51** and talk about how Jesus helped His family.
4. Let your child give the book to a grandparent, or trade coupons with you all week.
5. Pray together, thanking God for the people who care for your family.

Color, cut out, and staple together. Write your own on the blank coupons.

 HONOR COUPON One table set without being asked To: _____ From: _____	 HONOR COUPON One big hug To: _____ From: _____
 HONOR COUPON One drawing just for you To: _____ From: _____	 HONOR COUPON One toy pick-up, all by myself To: _____ From: _____
 HONOR COUPON One song sung just for you To: _____ From: _____	 HONOR COUPON One helping hand with dishes To: _____ From: _____
 HONOR COUPON To: _____ From: _____	 HONOR COUPON To: _____ From: _____

Honor at home

You're growing up and making more of your own choices. The fifth commandment doesn't expire when you get older; it grows up with you. Work through this on your own or with a friend, then talk it over with a parent, guardian, or mentor.

OBSERVE

- Y1.** Read **Exodus 20:12** and **Ephesians 6:1–3**. What's the difference between obeying and honoring? Which one lasts your whole life?

- Y2.** Read **Luke 2:41–52**. Jesus was 12. What did He do after the temple visit, and what does verse 52 say happened next?

INTERPRET

- Y3.** Honor means giving weight. Eye-rolls, sighs, and “whatever” make light of someone. Why are these so easy to slip into, even when we don't mean to be rude?

- Y4.** Read **Proverbs 15:1** and **James 1:19**. How can you disagree with a parent and still honor them?

Y5. Read **Ruth 1:15–18**. Ruth chose to stay with Naomi when she didn't have to. Who is an older person in your family or church you could show honor to?

APPLY

Y6. Read **1 Timothy 4:12**. Paul told young Timothy to be an example. What would being an example at home look like for you this week?

Y7. Read **Psalms 27:10**. Not every family is easy. What does this verse promise? Write a short prayer for your family.

THIS WEEK'S CHALLENGE

Pick one and check it off when you're done.

- ☐ Memorize **Ephesians 6:2** and say it to someone at home.
- ☐ Do one chore without being asked, and don't mention that you did it.
- ☐ Thank a parent or guardian for one specific thing they do for you.
- ☐ Ask a grandparent or older relative to tell you a story from their life, and really listen.

MY THOUGHTS / QUESTIONS I STILL HAVE



Answer notes

DAY 1

1. *Personal answer.* Giving weight includes listening, speaking respectfully, and taking their role seriously.
2. *Personal answer.* Examples include eye-rolling, ignoring, mocking, or speaking dismissively about them.

DAY 2

3. “Obey” is given to children; “honor” is given to everyone.
4. Obedience never includes doing what God forbids (Acts 5:29).
5. Even the Son of God submitted to earthly parents, so no one is too important to honor theirs.

DAY 3

6. A new household begins. Adult children make their own family decisions while still honoring their parents.
7. He listened respectfully and acted on good advice, but the decision was his own as a leader.

DAY 4

8. Money declared a gift to God, which religious leaders used to avoid supporting parents. Jesus said it nullified God’s commandment.
9. Someone who doesn’t provide for family has denied the faith and is worse than an unbeliever.
10. She chose loyalty and care out of love, not obligation.

DAY 5

11. He fled and stayed away, but refused to harm Saul, calling him “the LORD’s anointed.”
12. Ham exposed their father’s failure; Shem and Japheth covered it respectfully.
13. The LORD Himself will take them up and care for them.

DAY 6

14. God’s authority comes first.
15. Faithfulness to God can mean taking a different path than your family, while still honoring them.
16. *Personal answer.* Explain respectfully, suggest another day, visit before or after the Sabbath, or invite family to a Sabbath meal.

DAY 7

17. “That it may be well with thee, and thou mayest live long on the earth.”
18. The earth made new, where God lives with His people forever.
19. It will turn the hearts of parents and children toward each other.

YOUTH STUDY

- Y1. Obeying is for children under their parents’ care. Honoring is for everyone at every age, so it lasts your whole life.
- Y2. He went home with Mary and Joseph and was subject to them. He grew in wisdom, in stature, and in favor with God and people.

Y3. *Personal answer.*

Y4. Listen first, stay calm, and answer gently. You can share your view respectfully without making light of them.

Y5. *Personal answer.* Ruth chose loyalty and care out of love, not obligation.

Y6. *Personal answer.*

Y7. The LORD Himself will take you up and care for you. *Personal prayer.*

WHAT I LEARNED / WHAT I'LL DO THIS MONTH

