

Study QUESTIONS

Ep. 1448: What Does Honoring Our Parents Really Mean?

<https://christianquestions.com/doctrine/1448-honoring-parents/>

See:  CQ.Rewind
SHOW NOTES

1. How do the first four commandments (honoring God through reverence, worshiping Him exclusively, respect for His name and Sabbath rest), prepare us for the Fifth Commandment, to honor our parents correctly? Why might God place reverence for parents within this context? (Exodus 20:3-8, 12, Leviticus 19:1-4)
2. How does the concept of “weight” or “heaviness” explain both positive and negative uses of the Hebrew word, *kabad*? How do we give our parents “weight” in our lives? (Exodus 20:12, 8:32, Proverbs 3:9)
3. How does the New Testament concept of honor (*timao* – “to prize or revere”) deepen our understanding of the Fifth Commandment? (Matthew 15:4, John 5:23)
4. What are some practical behaviors found in Proverbs 23:22-23 we can use to honor our parents?
5. How did Jesus honor his earthly parents in his youth and in the final moments of his life? (Luke 2:49-52, John 19:25-27)
6. How can we more closely follow Jesus’ example of respectful, thoughtful and loving honor? How can you make sure you aren’t primarily motivated by duty, family expectation, and instead by a desire to honor God? (John 19:25-27, Colossians 3:23-25)
7. Hebrews 12:9-11 says earthly fathers discipline “as seemed best to them.” How should this perspective influence our judgments of our parents?
8. What guidance does 1 Timothy 5:1-2 provide for interacting with older family members? How can we retain a respectful attitude even when difficult conversations are necessary?
9. What are the biblical limits of obedience, especially to abusive parents? How can honoring parents coexist with setting healthy, godly boundaries? (Ephesians 6:1-4, Galatians 6:2)
10. How can we distinguish between honoring parents in difficult circumstances and falling into ungodly resentment or avoidance?
11. Are there any unresolved resentments toward my parents that may hinder my ability to honor them from the heart? What godly steps can I take toward healing, forgiveness and/or establishing appropriate boundaries? (Galatians 6:2, 7-8)
12. What was Jesus’ warning concerning excuses for neglecting parents? How can resentment, self-interest, or even religious rationalization lead us to avoid our responsibilities toward parents today? (Mark 7:9-13)
13. How does honoring parents ultimately reflect our honor for God?