

SLIDE 1

Honor Your Parents

Live the 10 Series: #5
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Lazy Mountain Bible Church
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Introduction

Today we look at the 5th Commandment.

We you join me in reading it?

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Deuteronomy 5:16 (NIV)

¹⁶ **“Honor your father and your mother, as the LORD your God has commanded you, so that you may live long and that it may go well with you in the land the LORD your God is giving you.**

We have been in a series, “Live the 10.”

SLIDE 3 Live the 10!

It is about how as Christians we can live the 10 commandments under the grace of God. Not as law as words of invitation to a rich life in Christ empowered by faith, and faith in Christ alone.

We have seen that God’s intent with the 10 Commandments is that we review them regularly constantly. In fact he gave this instruction to all his people:

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Deuteronomy 6:4-7 (NLT)

4 “Listen, O Israel! The Lord is our God, the Lord alone. 5 And you must love the Lord your God with all your heart, all your soul, and all your strength. 6 And you must commit yourselves wholeheartedly to these commands that I am giving you today. 7 Repeat them again and again to your children. Talk about them when you are at home and when you are on the road, when you are going to bed and when you are getting up.

So if we as believers are to have these on our heart, if we not to just read the 10, but live the 10, God says we are to review them daily ourselves and with our children.

There are some very funny ways people have been trying to do this over the years by restating them in an easy to remember form.

Someone a version written to help Minnesotans remember the Ten Commandments.

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The "Minnesota Ten commandments."

1. Dere's only one God ya know.
2. Don't make that fish on your mantle an idol.
3. Cussin' aint Minnesota nice.
4. Go to church even when you're up nort.
5. Honor yer folks.
6. Do not kill. Catch and Release.
7. Keep your hand off your neighbor's lutefisk
8. Dere's only one Ole and one Lena: no cheatin!
9. Don't be braggin about how much snow you shoveled.
10. Keep your mind off your neighbor's hot dish.

Now apparently some people in Tennessee have trouble with all those "shalls" and "shall nots" in the Ten commandments. Folks just aren't used to talking in those terms. So, some folks in middle Tennessee got together and translated the "King James" into "Jackson County" language and called it:

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The Hillbilly's Ten Commandments

(posted on the wall at Cross Trails
Church in Gainesboro, TN.)

- (1) Just one God
- (2) Honor yer Ma & Pa
- (3) No tellin' tales or gossipin'
- (4) Git yourself to Sunday meetin'
- (5) Put nothin' before God
- (6) No foolin' around with another fellow's gal
- (7) No killin'

- (8) Watch yer mouth
- (9) Don't take what ain't yers
- (10) Don't be hankerin' for yer buddy's stuff

Well, not to be outdone, and to be more biblically accurate here on Lazy Mountain, we have been learning the 10 commandments in only 24 words.

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The 10 Commandments in 24 Words

- 1. No other Gods**
- 2. No Idols**
- 3. Honor My Name**
- 4. Honor My Day**
- 5. Honor My Parents**
- 6. No Murder**
- 7. No Adultery**
- 8. No Stealing**
- 9. No Lying**
- 10. No Coveting**

That's the 10 Commandments in 24 Words.

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Now why as Christians we would strive to memorize and discuss and live the 10?

After all, we are under grace not under law. And the Ten Commandments are the pinnacle of the Mosaic law.

To think about that question, think about buying a house. Realtors give all kinds of instructions on how to sell a house. But rarely do they say, "First, look at the foundation!" Realtors know that things like location, curb appeal; cleanliness, and neatness are what attract buyers and sell houses. By the way, that is why when your parents finally had you and bought a house they were not able to even think about selling until you were gone! But location, curb appeal, cleanliness, and neatness, mean nothing if the foundation is not solid.

Now Jesus life and teachings should never be compared to location, curb appeal, or neatness, but the Ten Commandments are the Foundation underneath His life and his teaching. It is because His standards are so high and founded in obedience to the 10 Commandments, that his invitation to salvation is so inviting.

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We have no hope of living the 10! It is beyond our ability. Except that we walk by faith with Christ. And receive forgiveness for our sins. Because I dare say that every sin ever committed by mankind can be traced back at its root to a violation of one of these 10!

Just try this sometime. Try and name a sin that at its root is not a violation of one of the 10 commandments.

Or this one, think of a novel that would even interest you in reading if at the heart of the novel wasn't the tension created by a violation of one of the 10!

The tension behind every one of Shakespeare's plays is that one or more of the characters have violated the 10 Commandments. In fact, most of the most memorable Bible stories are written because someone violated one of the 10 commandments.

Peter lied, David murdered, Moses murdered, Abram committed adultery and those were some of the good guys.

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It is the tension caused by our inability to do what we know is right that is at the heart of our need for a Savior—who is Christ the Lord.

The 10 Commandments are the foundation of our morality. But our faith in the sacrifice of Christ is the foundation of our immortality. Without faith in Christ we have no hope of even donning a shirt emblazoned with live the 10!

It is on the Christ the solid Rock I stand. By faith and faith alone. All other else is sinking sand. The great hymn declares:

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My hope is built on nothing less
Than Jesus' blood and righteousness.
I dare not trust the sweetest frame,
But wholly trust in Jesus' Name.

On Christ the solid Rock I stand,
All other ground is sinking sand;
All other ground is sinking sand.

But still when asked about it what we should do, how should we live, Jesus went right back to the foundation, right back to the basic instruction to live the 10! In fact he summarized the 10 commandments for us in this way.

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Mark 12:28-31 (NIV)

The Greatest Commandment

28 One of the teachers of the law came and heard them debating. Noticing that Jesus had given them a good answer, he asked him, “Of all the commandments, which is the most important?”

29 “The most important one,” answered Jesus, “is this: ‘Hear, O Israel, the Lord our God, the Lord is one. 30 Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength.’ 31 The second is this: ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’ There is no commandment greater than these.”

So Christ summarized the 10, helping us to see the foundation of the 10 in two key groupings, or two sets.

The first 4 are the commandments that tell us how God wants to be loved and the next 6 are the commandments that tell us how to love our neighbor.

So the Commandments that tell us how God wants to be loved are the first four.

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Deuteronomy 5:6-15 (NIV)

⁶ “I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of Egypt, out of the land of slavery.

⁷ “You shall have no other gods before me.

⁸ “You shall not make for yourself an idol in the form of anything in heaven above or on the earth beneath or in the waters below. ⁹ You shall not bow down to them or worship them; for I, the LORD your God, am a jealous God, punishing the children for the sin of the fathers to the third and fourth generation of those who hate me, ¹⁰ but showing love to a thousand generations of those who love me and keep my commandments.

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¹¹ “You shall not misuse the name of the LORD your God, for the LORD will not hold anyone guiltless who misuses his name.

¹² “Observe the Sabbath day by keeping it holy, as the LORD your God has commanded you. ¹³ Six days you shall labor and do all your work, ¹⁴ but the seventh day is a Sabbath to the LORD your God. On it you shall not do any work, neither you, nor your son or daughter, nor your manservant or maidservant, nor your ox, your donkey or any of your animals, nor the alien within your gates, so that your manservant and maidservant may rest, as you do.

¹⁵ Remember that you were slaves in Egypt and that the LORD your God brought you out of there with a mighty hand and an outstretched arm. Therefore the LORD your God has commanded you to observe the Sabbath day.

If you would like to hear the messages on these 4 commandments, then you may simply download them from the web.

Today we are going to begin to look at the last 6 commandments.

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The commandments that are the foundation under Jesus command to love our neighbor as ourselves.

Deuteronomy 5:16-21 (NIV)

¹⁶ “Honor your father and your mother, as the LORD your God has commanded you, so that you may live long and that it may go well with you in the land the LORD your God is giving you.

¹⁷ “You shall not murder.

¹⁸ “You shall not commit adultery.

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¹⁹ “You shall not steal.

²⁰ “You shall not give false testimony against your neighbor.

²¹ “You shall not covet your neighbor’s wife. You shall not set your desire on your neighbor’s house or land, his manservant or maidservant, his ox or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor.”

These are the 10!

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You noticed the first of these is Commandment #5. Let’s look at that.

Deuteronomy 5:16-21 (NIV)

¹⁶ “**Honor your father and your mother, as the LORD your God has commanded you, so that you may live long and that it may go well with you in the land the LORD your God is giving you.**

Honor our father and mother. What does that mean to honor our father and mother?

3877 I. כָּבֵד (kā·bēd): v.; ≡ Str 3513; TWOT 943—**1.** LN 86.1-86.3 (qal) **be heavy**, weigh much, i.e., have an object be physically heavy (Job 6:3; Eze 27:25); (hif) **make heavy**, feel heavy (La 3:7); **2.** LN 87.4-87.18 (qal) **honor**, honored (Job 14:21), note: in some contexts, implying a raising or changing of financial status; (nif) distinguished, honored, be renowned, i.e., be in the state or gain for oneself a high status among a group of any size (Ge 34:19); (piel) **distinguish**, honor (Ex 20:12);

The Hebrew word, Kabed, at it root means heavy, to weigh much. Now before you parents panic thinking “I don’t think I want my kids pointing out that I am getting heavier as I get older.” That is not

what this is saying. In the Hebrew form of the verb used here, it means to distinguish, to raise someone in state or status.

The verb's first occurrence is in Gen. 13:2 in the sense of "being rich": "And Abram was very rich..." This usage vividly illustrates the basic implications of the word. Whenever *KABED* is used, it reflects the idea of "weightiness," or that which is added to something else. Thus, to be "very rich" means that Abram was heavily "weighted down" with wealth. This idea also explains how the word can be used to indicate the state of "being honored" or "glorious," for honor and glory are additional qualities that are added to a person or thing.¹

So this means, children, honor, or add weightiness or significance to your parents by the way to treat them, by the way you respect them, by the way your relationship with them is distinguished from any other relationship on earth.

So now we see why this command, the first focus on our relationship with others, is about our relationship with parents.

The idea behind the Hebrew is, your parents are just normal folks. But to you, your responsibility and opportunity is to raise them above just ordinary, by the deference and respect you grant them. "To honor" is to add something which it does not have in itself, or that which others can give.²

When your parents or parent brought you into the world--they felt quite ordinary, quite humbled by the extraordinary responsibility God had instructed to them. In making a child together in having a baby God allowed man and woman to participate in creation with Him in a profound way. Parenting is a very humbling experience. It will drive you to your knees. You see, you were not perfect when you were born. I know it is hard to believe. You were helpless. You were demanding. Need I mention that just one example of this was you did not sleep according to your parents schedule. You tried your best to get them to sleep according to your schedule and needs. And because your parents loved you, you won. They let you win. They dragged themselves out of bed and fed and changed you and burped you and rocked you to sleep. And your sleep patterns meant mom and dad began the next day tired.

And that is just one small example of the many, many, many sacrifices your parents or parent made to make life work for you when you couldn't make it work for yourself.

So Christ's words, and the foundation of the 5th commandment us, remind us, indeed compel us, to distinguish our parents. To honor them. Our parents bodies have literally been changed in the loving of

¹Vine, W. E., Unger, M. F., & White, W. (1996). *Vine's complete expository dictionary of Old and New Testament words* (1:101). Nashville: T. Nelson.

²Vine, W. E., Unger, M. F., & White, W. (1996). *Vine's complete expository dictionary of Old and New Testament words* (1:101). Nashville: T. Nelson.

us. They have worry lines, stretch marks, varicose veins, grey hair, need I go on...because they gave so much to honor the responsibility that God gave them in giving you to them to raise.

But God doesn't stop there. He reminds us that this is the first commandment that comes with a promise:

Paul says

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Ephesians 6:2-3 (NIV)

²“Honor your father and mother”—which is the first commandment with a promise— ³“that it may go well with you and that you may enjoy long life on the earth.”

When you distinguish your parents by the way you respect them. God takes notice. And your way is made better. And your quality and quantity of your life increases.

So let's summarize

The bible says,

Prov. 23:22 "When your mother is old, show her your appreciation."

(By the way, there are 4 stages in a man's life: he believes in Santa Clause, he doesn't believe in Santa Clause, he is Santa Clause, he looks like Santa Clause. Appreciate him in all four stages.)

We are out of time today, and next week we will get into even more specifics, but for this week just dwell on the text

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Deuteronomy 5:16-21 (NIV)

¹⁶ “Honor your father and your mother, as the LORD your God has commanded you, so that you may live long and that it may go well with you in the land the LORD your God is giving you.

Ask yourself, what would it mean for me to live in relationship with my parents in a way that would add “weightiness” to my parents, to distinguish them, to honor them because when you put yourself into

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Living the 10!

Living the 5th of the 10, God promises your path becomes straighter, and your life longer and richer.

Next week will get into some more specific challenges we face in honoring our parents.

