

“Honor Your Father”

Greg Wendschlag June 17, 2018

“Honor your father and your mother, so that you may live long in the land the Lord your God is giving you.” Ex. 20:12

What does it mean to honor my father?

- To **esteem** or **value**.
- To consider worthy of the **greatest respect**.

Why should I honor my father?

1. God **commands** it. To dishonor parents is to **dishonor God**.

“Honor your father....” Ex. 20:12

2. Honor brings **joy** to him.

*“The father of a righteous man has great joy; he who has a wise son delights in him.”
Prov. 23:24*

3. You will be **blessed**.

“So that you may live long in the land the Lord your God is giving you.” Ex. 20:12

How can I honor my father?

1. **Obey** him

“Children obey your parents in the Lord for this is right.” Eph. 6:1

2. **Encourage** him

“Do not rebuke an older man harshly, but encourage him as if he were your father.” 1 Tim. 5:1

3. **Care** for him

*“Children and grandchildren...should learn first of all to put their religion into practice be caring for their own family and so repaying their parents and grandparents, for this is pleasing to God.”
1Tim 5:4*

4. **Heed** his wisdom

"Listen, my son, to your father's instruction and do not forsake your mother's teaching."
Prov. 1:8

5. Provide **financially** for him

"If anyone does not provide for his relatives, and especially his immediate family, he has denied the faith and is worse than an unbeliever." 1 Tim. 5:8

6. Speak **well** of him

"If someone curses his father his lamp will be snuffed out in pitch darkness." Prov. 20:20

7. Respect his **friends** - Prov. 27:10

"Do not forsake your friend and the friend of your father." Prov. 27:10

Evaluate how you honor your father

1. Do I consider my father a gift to be prized?
2. Do I seek out the wisdom of my father by asking questions and listening to him?
3. Do I honor and respect my father's friends as a way to respect him?
4. Do I take time to ask him how he is doing and try to help him when I can?
5. Do I make an effort to spend time with him and treat him with kindness?
6. Do I realize that honoring my father is honoring God?
7. Have I forgiven my father for things that have hurt me?