

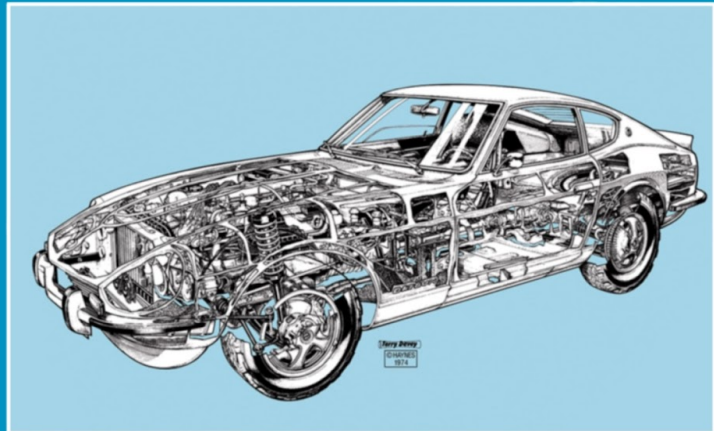
THE WAY IT WORKS

10C, 26V & 20EX



Ultimate Life Guide/Manual

20:02 thru 20:17 Commandments
1 - 10, no other, no idols, not in vain, 6-day & 1, honor, not kill,
loyal, not steal, not lie, not covet



The Way it Works — Honor Your Father and Mother Sermon Discussion Questions – October 1, 2023

Scripture Passages:

Exodus 20:12 (NLT) ¹² “Honor your father and mother. Then you will live a long, full life in the land the Lord your God is giving you.

Romans 1:28–30 (NLT) ²⁸ Since they thought it foolish to acknowledge God, he abandoned them to their foolish thinking and let them do things that should never be done. ²⁹ Their lives became full of every kind of wickedness, sin, greed, hate, envy, murder, quarreling, deception, malicious behavior, and gossip. ³⁰ They are backstabbers, haters of God, insolent, proud, and boastful. They invent new ways of sinning, and they disobey their parents.

2 Timothy 3:1–2 (NLT) You should know this, Timothy, that in the last days there will be very difficult times. ² For people will love only themselves and their money. They will be boastful and proud, scoffing at God, disobedient to their parents, and ungrateful. They will consider nothing sacred.

Leviticus 19:2-3 (NLT) ² “Give the following instructions to the entire community of Israel. You must be holy because I, the Lord your God, am holy. ³ “Each of you must show great respect for your mother and father

Exodus 17:12 (NLT) ¹² Moses’ arms soon became so tired he could no longer hold them up. So Aaron and Hur found a stone for him to sit on. Then they stood on each side of Moses, holding up his hands. So his hands held steady until sunset.

Exodus 40:34–35 (NLT) ³⁴ Then the cloud covered the Tabernacle, and the glory of the Lord filled the Tabernacle. ³⁵ Moses could no longer enter the Tabernacle because the cloud had settled down over it, and the glory of the Lord filled the Tabernacle.

2 Chronicles 7:1 (NLT) When Solomon finished praying, fire flashed down from heaven and burned up the burnt offerings and sacrifices, and the glorious presence of the Lord filled the Temple.

2 Corinthians 3:7–11 (NLT) ⁷The old way, with laws etched in stone, led to death, though it began with such glory that the people of Israel could not bear to look at Moses' face. . . . ⁸Shouldn't we expect far greater glory under the new way, now that the Holy Spirit is giving life?

Exodus 20:12 (NLT) ¹²"Honor your father and mother. Then you will live a long, full life in the land the Lord your God is giving you.

Warm Up:

We all have some craziness in our families, and a ton of fun! What is the most fun memory you have of your family growing up? Any fun traditions?

Discussion:

1. As Tom discussed, all of the commandments that we have talked about up to this point have been about our relationship with God. Now they begin to speak to our relationships with others. Many of them seem like general moral rules. What are some rules we generally agree about in society?
2. Pastor Tom shares that out of all of the commandments about loving others, God chose to start with "Honor your father and mother." Does that seem odd to you? What could be the significance of God putting that commandment about others first?
3. When you think of this particular commandment, how does it connect with your own life experience? Was/is it hard for you to honor your parents? Where / are they easy to honor?
4. Pastor Tom states, "There is no honoring of others when the self is at the center. This commandment makes no sense, if you are at the center." To begin to honor in this way, we must die to ourselves. What might it look like for someone to "die to themselves" in the area of honoring their parents?
5. Read 2 Corinthians 3:16-18. We know that there is freedom in the Lord by which we are changed and that we reflect that glory to others as parents, children, husbands, wives, and friends. What could that reflection of glory look like in your own family?
6. "Honoring your parents means seeing them as Christ does." How might God want to change the way you view your family today? Is there any forgiveness you need to pray through? Pray over one another's family relationships.

Next Steps:

Take some time to think through these words from Pastor Tom.

"Tom, how can I honor someone who has hurt me? Respectfully, look to your Savior on the cross and follow him. That is impossible, there is no way I could love them again. Look to your Savior on the cross

and follow him. There is no hope for restoration, there is no life in that relationship. Look to an empty tomb and follow a resurrected Lord who overcame sin and death, and follow him.”

Take some more time to think through these words from Dennis Rainey.

“Honoring your parents is an attitude accompanied by actions that say to your parents: “You are worthy. You have value. You are the person God sovereignly placed in my life. You may have failed me, hurt me, and disappointed me at times, but I am taking off my judicial robe and releasing you from the courtroom of my mind. I choose to look at you with compassion—as people with needs, concerns, and scars of your own.”

For the child with a parent wound:

- Pray though each of these statements asking God to turn your gaze to the cross when it comes to any broken relationships with parents.
- Offer true forgiveness for your parent/s and ask God to help you to see them how He does.
- Ask God to show you how to honor your parents in the the hard spaces and reflect His glory and freedom.

For the child with strong parent relationships:

- Thank God for the examples of His glory in your parents.
- Ask God how you can continue to honor your parents
- Encourage your parents about how they have shown you God’s heart

For the parent:

- Take a breath. God sees your situation and He wants your heart to be free.
- Surrender your role as a parent to Him, and ask Him how He wants to show His glory and freedom through your parenting.
- Take a moment to pray over your kids, asking God to show them His glory in their lives.