



# GOD'S TOP TEN

## Who Deserves Honor? - Exodus 20:12

### MAIN THING

Honor Your Father and Mother

### SCRIPTURE

Exodus 20:12, Deuteronomy 5:16, Proverbs 12:22, Exodus 21:17, Proverbs 15:5, Ephesians 6:1

### ICEBREAKER

When I was a kid, I thought my parents were out of touch and didn't understand the world that we live in. Fast forward to today, and I realize just how wise my parents were and just how "in touch" they were. What were some of the disagreements you had with your parents when you were younger? What were the funnier arguments you had?

### OPENING THOUGHT

We are all children of parents. We all, whether we knew them or not, have mothers and fathers. As a newer parent of two children under one year old, my view on why we should honor our parents has drastically changed. The sacrifice, the time and those nasty diapers are some examples of what parents need to do to take care of children who wouldn't survive without them. God takes parenting very seriously, and he takes giving proper honor to parents even more. He sees honoring parents so much that it's in His top ten. In this study, we'll be talking about the simple commandment of "Honor your father and mother".

### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What was one thing that stood out to you from this weekend's message?
2. This commandment can be difficult for some of us, because families vary from very good to very bad. Maybe this is why this commandment is the only one that states that if it is followed, there will be a blessing attached to it.  
*What are the two blessings mentioned in Deuteronomy 5:16 that come from honoring your parents?  
Why do you think that following this commandment leads to those two blessings? How are they related?*
3. Tell a personal story of a time when honoring your parents, or following their teaching, or listening to their wisdom, etc led to a blessing in your life.
4. If you are a parent, what are some of the ways you feel honored by your children? If you are not a parent, what are some specific ways you show honor to your parents today?

### LIFE APPLICATION

5. Honoring our parents doesn't mean that we always agree with them or do things the way they want us to, especially as we become adults and set off on our own. There must be good boundaries between parents and adult children for the relationship to be healthy. What are some boundaries that you and your parents, or you and your grown children, have that help keep the peace between you?

### CHALLENGE

What actions can you take this week to do a better job of honoring your parents? Here are a few suggestions: *Tell them the truth. It is always honoring to someone when you respect them enough to tell them the truth. Proverbs 12:22, Don't trash them in front of your friends. Exodus 21:17, Express gratitude for the sacrifices they made for you. Accept their discipline. Proverbs 15:5, Do what they tell you the first time. Ephesians 6:1*  
What others can you and your group come up with?