

## Life Group Homework

For the week of October 30, 2016

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### QUICK REVIEW

- 1) Looking back at your notes from Sunday's teaching, was there anything that caught your attention?

### MY STORY

- 2) From last week's study was there something you did differently to include rest in your schedule?
- 3) Do you have a plan to be sure to put rest into your schedule? If so share it with your group.
- 4) What stood out to you the most from last week's study?

### DIGGING DEEPER

#### Exodus 20:12 (NLT)

*"Honor your father and mother. Then you will live a long, full life in the land the LORD your God is giving you."*

- 5) What does it mean to Honor someone?
- 6) Does a person have to have high moral character to be honored?
- 7) Why can this idea of honor be hard for some people?

Billy Graham has some great thoughts for those among us who have had painful experiences with parents. He says, "allow me to say a word to those who have not had the joy of being reared by godly parents. This kind of pain is severe because the relationship between parents and their offspring is meant to be positive, nurturing and wholesome. Nonetheless, there are many who hurt deeply because of various kinds of parental abuse. How does a believer carry out God's commandment here, and what would God have to say about this? May I suggest six things to consider?

- Pray for your parents.
- Keep on trying to help them, even though that may be difficult at times.
- Model Jesus for them.
- Exercise restraint in front of them.
- Weep for them before the Lord, pouring your heart out to Him on their behalf.
- Forgive them. The Lord can help you do this!"

- 8) Of these six points which is the hardest for you to do personally?

### TAKING IT HOME

The family is the first place in our lives where we experience an authority structure. This is also one of the reasons God commands us to Honor our father and mother. God knows that we will experience many places in our lives when we will have someone in authority over us.

Below are some passages on how we should treat people in authority.

Hebrews 13:17

*Obey your spiritual leaders, and do what they say. Their work is to watch over your souls, and they are accountable to God. Give them reason to do this with joy and not with sorrow. That would certainly not be for your benefit.*

Philippians 2:14-15

*<sup>14</sup>Do all things without grumbling or disputing, <sup>15</sup>that you may be blameless and innocent, children of God without blemish in the midst of a crooked and twisted generation, among whom you shine as lights in the world...*

Titus 3:1-2

*Remind the believers to submit to the government and its officers. They should be obedient, always ready to do what is good. <sup>2</sup>They must not slander anyone and must avoid quarreling. Instead, they should be gentle and show true humility to everyone.*

- 9) What are the themes of these verses?
- 10) With these verses in mind what should our attitudes be to our leaders?
- 11) How should we live our lives in an authority structure?

### Final thoughts

We know this, you can be the change in your family. If you had a difficult upbringing only Christ can break the cycle of the things you learned while young.

If you struggle with authority, and many in our culture do, we encourage you to seek Jesus and his example. If you are grumbling about a boss or a church leader we encourage you to humble yourself, trust God, and follow scripture's path on how to approach those in authority. His plan is perfect and as the world gets darker and darker the brighter your light will shine if you walk in his ways.

## CHAIR TIME TOOLS

We live a society that says "do what you like, and what makes you feel good" In this commandment we are challenged to submit and honor others in our lives.

- 12) How do you think others see us in how we honor our parents, employers, and authority in our life?
- 13) Are these areas that we are being challenged in?

Ephesians 6:1-4

*Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. <sup>2</sup> "Honor your father and mother" (this is the first commandment with a promise), <sup>3</sup> "that it may go well with you and that you may live long in the land." <sup>4</sup> Fathers, do not provoke your children to anger, but bring them up in the discipline and instruction of the Lord.*

- 14) What does it mean to bring your children up in the discipline and instruction of the lord?
- 15) What does it mean "do not provoke?"

## Exodus: Journey of Revelation "Authority Matters"

Pastor Craig Sweeney

October 30, 2016

**Text:** Exodus 20:12, Exodus 32:1-35

**Revelation:** Authority matters... AND it begins at home.

### Key Points:

- I. "Honor" is a vision FOR me.
  - A. "Honor" - "Good reputation, respect, integrity, to give weight or dignity."
  - B. A challenge for the mother and father.
  - C. A challenge for the son/daughter.
- II. Authority matters FOR me.  
(Matthew 23:1-12, Ephesians 5:21-33)
- III. "Honor," as an authority, is a high bar to rise to.

### Challenges:

- How will I act or think differently to live into the commandment to "Honor my father and mother?"