



Family Life

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How strong families contribute to a better society.

Ephesians 6:1-4

¹Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right.

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." ⁴Fathers, do not exasperate your children; instead, bring them up in the training and instruction of the Lord.

(New International Version)

So what is the principle here about the importance of honoring parents?

Are there any differences to Paul's restating of the fifth commandment?

Discussion Questions:

How does family life have a bearing on work life?

What is the significance of Paul addressing the children directly in these restatements of the Fifth Commandment?

6-1-3 – What is the commandment referred to here?

Does the promise in Ephesians 6:3 mean obedient children will live longer than disobedient children?

How is this the first commandment with promise?

How did Jesus reinforce the fifth commandment?

What does it mean to honor your father and mother?

What was the flaw in the reasoning of the Pharisees?

Who is blessed by honoring your parents?

6-4 – Why is this verse needed following the first three?

It is obvious how children honoring parents benefit the parents, how does it benefit the children?

Why are fathers singled out here?

How does honoring parents benefit society as a whole?

How do parents exasperate their children?

What dangerous trend do we see in how society regards families today?

What is the result in society of parents not bringing their children up in the training and instruction of the Lord?

What is the significance of the Fifth Commandment saying we should honor both father and mother?

How is the break-down of the family in our day is a sign that the return of Jesus is near?

Does this command apply only to biological parents?

How has the fruit of this attitude of "do what is right in your own eyes" caused problems in our society?

What is the significance to the reference to "land" in the Fifth Commandment?

How does having strong, correctly functioning families contribute to a better work environment?

Did Israel obey God's commandments? What happened?