

*A Biblical teaching for children, youth, and parents*

*By the grace of God*

---

## Introduction

Whether you're a child, a teenager, an adult, or even a grandparent — if your parents are still alive, God's Word commands you to honor them. Honoring your parents isn't optional. It's a **command** from God, and it carries with it **both blessings and consequences**.

---

### 1. God's Clear Command to Honor Parents

*Leviticus 19:3 (ESV)*

"Every one of you shall revere his mother and his father, and you shall keep my Sabbaths: I am the LORD your God."

In this verse, the word "*revere*" or "*fear*" means to **treat with utmost respect and honor**. Just as we give deep reverence to God, we are also

called to give **high regard** to our parents.

This reverence involves:

- Obedience (Ephesians 6:1)
- Listening (Proverbs 1:8)
- Not speaking harshly or rudely (Exodus 21:17)
- Caring for them in old age (1 Timothy 5:4, 8)

Honoring parents is so important that God **linked it directly to Sabbath observance** — both being signs of covenant faithfulness to Him.

---

## 2. Honoring Parents Is Not Just for Children

Many people think this command only applies to young children. But the Bible **never sets an age limit** on this instruction. As long as your parents are alive, **you are still their child** — no matter how old you are.

*Proverbs 23:22 (ESV)*

“Listen to your father who gave you life, and do not despise your mother when she is old.”

This is a lifelong responsibility. Whether you are 20, 40, or 70, if your parent is still alive, this verse still applies to you.

---

## 3. Dishonoring Parents Brings Serious Consequences

God does not take lightly the sin of dishonoring parents. The Bible records serious consequences for such behavior — both in the Old Testament and reaffirmed in the New.

A. Loss of Vision and Direction

*Proverbs 30:17 (ESV)*

“The eye that mocks a father and scorns to obey a mother will be picked out by the ravens of the valley and eaten by the vultures.”

This vivid picture represents someone who **loses their moral and spiritual vision** — they walk in darkness and confusion. Dishonoring your parents can lead to a life without clarity, purpose, or lasting peace.

---

B. Spiritual and Physical Death

*Proverbs 20:20 (ESV)*

“If one curses his father or his mother, his lamp will be put out in utter darkness.”

In the Bible, a *lamp* symbolizes **life and guidance** (see Job 21:17). When your lamp is extinguished, it can mean **death, judgment**, or the

**removal of God's favor.**

Also note:

*Exodus 21:17 (ESV)*

“Whoever curses his father or his mother shall be put to death.”

While the death penalty isn't practiced under the New Covenant, this verse shows how **serious God views dishonor** toward parents.

---

#### **4. Honoring Parents Brings Blessing and Long Life**

*Ephesians 6:1-3 (ESV)*

“Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. ‘Honor your father and mother’ (this is the first commandment with a promise), that it may go well with you and that you may live long in the land.”

This is a direct quote from **Exodus 20:12**, one of the Ten Commandments. It comes with a **specific promise: well-being and long life.**

---

## 5. What Does It Mean to Honor Parents Practically?

- **Obey** when you're under their care.
- **Listen** to their wisdom, even as an adult.
- **Pray** for them regularly.
- **Care for them** in old age (Jesus rebuked the Pharisees for neglecting this — Mark 7:9-13).
- **Forgive** them if they've hurt you — holding bitterness is still dishonor.

- **Reconcile** with them if there's conflict.

---

## 6. There Are No Excuses

Some say, "But my parent was abusive," or "My mother abandoned me." While it's true that some parents fail in their responsibilities, the command to **honor** does not mean **approving sin** or putting yourself in danger.

However, even in difficult situations, **forgiveness, prayer, and honor in attitude** are still biblical. Honor doesn't always mean agreement — it means respect, humility, and letting God be the judge.

---

## Conclusion: Examine Yourself

- Have you honored your father and mother?
- Do you still pray for them?

- Is there any broken relationship that needs mending?
- Are you modeling this for your children?

If not, it's not too late. **Begin today.** Humble yourself, reach out, and honor them as unto the Lord.

---

### **Need Help Knowing Jesus?**

If you have never received Jesus Christ into your life as Lord and Savior, or if you want to return to Him, we are here to help. Salvation is free — and it's the foundation for a life of blessing and obedience.

☐ **Join our free daily Bible teachings on WhatsApp:**

☐ <https://whatsapp.com/channel/0029VaBVhuA3WHTbKoz8jx10>

☐ **Contact us directly at:**

+255 693 036 618 or +255 789 001 312



**May the Lord bless you, guide you, and give you the grace to honor your parents as unto Him.**

*“Honor your father and mother” — that it may go well with you.*

---

Share on:  
WhatsApp

[Print this post](#)