

## Honor and Respect?

Baptism is not like a flu shot. It's not a situation in which you are baptized and then you are "covered" for life. Jesus spoke about entering the narrow gate (Matthew 7). John shared that we should be faithful unto death (Revelation 2:10). Peter and Paul wrote about fleeing immorality, putting on Christ, and being holy. The New Testament indicates that we continue to grow in faithfulness. Are we?

Yet, the lives of many people do not reflect this truth. For example, many young people do not honor and respect their parents. This "epidemic" can even be seen in young adults in their 20s or 30s who talk down to, openly rebel against, and manipulate their parents. The same can be witnessed in classrooms where teachers are talked down to and given little to no respect.

And, sadly, on any given Sunday, "Christian" young people can be seen literally rolling their eyes at Bible class teachers or ignoring their parents. Children can be heard talking down to their parents or throwing "fits" to get their way. What's going on? Why is this happening?

The words "honor" and "respect" are often used synonymously. Simply put, to honor or respect someone means you are showing admiration or esteem toward them. God used these words in expressing *how* children should act toward their parents. Notice in Ephesians 6:1 Paul uses the phrase "**obey your parents in the Lord**," pointing out that it is important that the parents must not go against the will of God.

What does this mean for you and me today? When children are involved, it is not acceptable for any child to "boss" adults around or make the rules. If you and I allow this, then ultimately we will "raise" children who do not honor and respect their heavenly Father as well.

Likewise, just because you are "of adult age" does not mean you get to suddenly set aside passages of the Bible you don't personally agree with ...like "honoring your parents." You should still show honor and respect for your parents. Yes, God commands it. Do our children see us do it?

"Christian" young people—of ALL young people—should be leading the way in demonstrating honor and respect toward parents and adults. It is easy to love and respect someone when they give everything asked for. The true test comes when children don't get their way. Honor and obey parents even when you don't agree! Our culture is suffering because people think the world revolves around them! They do not respect authority. They need firm loving discipline.

It is WAY PAST time we return to what God's Word says on this subject. Over and over the Scriptures command children to "honor" father and mother. Exodus 20:12 states: "Honor your father and your mother, that your days may be long upon the land which the Lord your God is giving you." (See also Ephesians 6:1-4; Deuteronomy 5:16), Scripture indicates that children are to obey parents (Colossians 3:20; Proverbs 1:8).

Why is all of this important? Because the way you treat your parents reveals a great deal about how you will likely treat your Creator. If you dishonor, disrespect, and disobey parents then you will likely treat the guidance of God in exactly the same way.

Study carefully passages like Deuteronomy 21:18-21. God was serious about children who were rebellious and disobedient. When you "grow up" please remember that if your child is not honoring or respecting you there is a good chance his or her soul is in jeopardy—because they are probably not honoring or respecting God either. Keep on studying. "Grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ" (2 Peter 3:17-18).

Modified from <https://www.focuspress.org/2019/02/20/who-runs-your-home-you-or-your-kids/>



Who warned Pilate not to condemn Jesus to death?

**To all our visitors:** *Please feel free to participate!*

You should expect to hear singing with voices only, a few "family" announcements, prayers spoken, and see the Lord's Supper offered, then free-willed giving, and gospel preaching from the Bible.

Any response is up to you and will be kindly received.

We are glad you decided to worship God with us on this first day of the week!

**Bday/Anniv Lunch:** 2nd Sunday...

**NMCCH:** Spray & Wash and Bar Bath Soap (pick up **April 6, 2019**)

**Friday Bible Study:** at 7PM (2/22). Romans chapters 1 through 6.

**Singing:** Morton St, 7PM, Tuesday (2/26).

**VBS Planning Meeting:** To be determined...