

Honoring God and Parents

What is Honor?

- “To fix the value of something; to appraise highly; to esteem or prize.”
- Honor is the attitude of my heart that controls everything I do and indicates who I’m really living for.

I. What Does it Mean to Honor God?

A. Honoring God begins with the attitude of my HEART.

“And He (Jesus) said to them, “You are those who justify yourselves before men, but God knows your hearts.” Luke 16:15

Abiding attitude of heart: I’m so grateful for the gospel because I need the gospel!

I know I need the gospel; I prize His salvation

Gal 1:3-7 Jesus’ death in my place is the most real thing about me.

God knows I need the gospel

Eph. 1:1-4:16 1st 60% reminds us of the Gospel.

Col. 1:1-2:15 1st 50% reminds us of the Gospel.

I never stop needing the gospel

I Timothy 6:20 “O Timothy, Guard the deposit entrusted to you...”

II Timothy 1:13-14 “Carefully follow” the Gospel... “Guard” the Gospel.

Opposite: self-confidence; I take the gospel for granted.

How does “honoring” God change the way I relate to Him?

B. To honor God, I see Him as my boss.

Though I am tempted to independence, I prize His authority.

Psalms 16:8 “I have set the Lord continually before me...”

Psalms 119:15-16 “I will... fix my eyes on Your ways...”

Philippians 3:12 “...I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me His own.

Hebrews 12:1-2 “throw off sin... run... looking to Jesus.”

I ACTIVELY align myself under the Lord.

C. To honor God, I make it my business to KNOW what He wants from me.

Though I am tempted to do what is right in my own eyes, I prize His specific will.

Eph. 5:15-17 “Look carefully then how you walk, not as unwise but as wise, making the best use of the time, because the days are evil. Therefore do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is.

Eph. 5:8,10 “Walk as children of light... and try to discern what is pleasing to the Lord.

“The little decisions we make every day add up to set the course of our lives.”

Karl Graustein, Growing Up Christian, p.82

To honor God, I make it my business to DO what He wants from me.

Though I am tempted to rebel when His way is confusing or difficult, I prize obeying Him.

Genesis 22:1-12 Abraham, in faith, is willing to obey in sacrificing Isaac.

Acts 10 Peter, though initially reluctant, preaches to the Gentiles.

“What we do expresses the thoughts & desires of our hearts.”

Paul Tripp, Age of Opportunity, p.135

No one honors God perfectly, but if these thoughts are foreign to your thinking or experience, you need to evaluate your salvation; wanting to please God is a mark of a true believer.

What Does it Mean to Honor My Parents?

Honoring my parents begins with the attitude of my heart.

“Honoring” my parents is not merely compliance or lack of rebellion; it’s the way I value them in my heart.

Abiding attitude of heart: I’m so grateful for my parents because I need my parents!

I prize my parents as a much-needed gift from God.

Ephesians 6:1-3 Our parents’ authority is established by God for our good. To honor

God, I must honor my parents. This one command from God, given specifically to children, is my one primary responsibility before God during this season of my life.

Hebrews 12:7-9 Our earthly fathers are God-given gifts for our training.

Opposite: self-confidence; “I don’t really need them.”

To honor my parents, I see each of them as my boss.

I prize their authority. I set my parents “continually before me.”

Deut. 6:5 The role of “parent” is unique in the life of the child. There

is no one else on earth who God identifies with the responsibility to keep watch over the spiritual welfare of children / teenagers.

I ACTIVELY align myself under my parents.

Opposite: independence; “I think for myself.”

C. To honor my parents, I make it my business to KNOW what they think is best for me.

Faith: Dad, Mom, where is God at work in my life?

Ep 4:20-24 Paul uses similar language in all of these passages to describe the Romans

12:1-2 Christian life as constantly putting off the “old self” and constantly “putting on”

the new self. Until we get to heaven, God is constantly at work in us. He never stops

purifying us & transforming us, bit by bit, into the image of Jesus Christ. Where is God at

work in your life right now? What sin is on the surface, and how does it trace

