



# Ten.Com

**Number 5:  
Exodus  
20: 12**

We now come to the second section. The first 4 commandments were about our relationship to God, from now on they are about relating to other people.

***Honour your father and your mother, so that you may live long in the land the LORD your God is giving you.***



## Honour Parents



***Of all ten commandments, this is the only one which includes a promise. If you honour your parents, you will live long in the land.***

***As we start to look at commandments about relating to others, we come to the first important relationship we have...with our parents.***

***We are told to honour them. What does that mean? Other words that could be used here are to 'value' them or to 'respect' them.***

***Describe the way that someone who does not value their parents might live.***

***Describe the way that someone who does value their parents might live.***

***Does it also mean obey your parents always?***

***Let's start at the beginning.....when you are a young kid obviously yes. Your parents provide for you and teach you and it is your duty to obey them.***

***Read these verses from Ephesians:***

***2:1*** As for you, you were dead in your transgressions and sins, in which you used to live when you followed the ways

of this world and of the ruler of the kingdom of the air, the spirit who is now at work in those who are disobedient.

***Disobedience comes from the devil***

***4:13*** .....until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fulness of Christ.

Then we will no longer be infants,

tossed back and forth by the

waves, and blown here and

there by every wind of

teaching and by the cunning

and craftiness of men in their

deceitful scheming. Instead,

speaking the truth in love, we

will in all things grow up into him who is

the Head, that is,

Christ.

***we stop being infants when we mature***

***we grow up to love each other***

***5:1*** Be imitators of

God, therefore, as

dearly loved children

***and Christians are God's children***

***5:21*** Submit to one

another out of reverence for Christ.

***and we submit to all other Christians***

***So, with all that***

***thought***

***about (...read***

***all of Ephesians!....) we get to chapter 6:***

Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. "Honour your father and mother" --which is the first commandment with a promise-- "that it may go well with you and that you may enjoy long life on the earth." Fathers, do not exasperate your children; instead, bring them up in the training and instruction of the Lord.

### ***Principles to apply:***

- ***disobedience comes from the devil***
- ***we stop being infants when we mature (.....but do we stop being children?.....)***
- ***we should love our parents and honour them***
- ***we are God's children and need to therefore obey Him***
- ***we submit to each other in Christ.***

***Of course, no parent has the right to tell a thirty year old what to do in every aspect of their lives.....but a thirty year old still needs to honour their parents. Not to do anything that would make their parents ashamed of them.***

***The 'override' factor needs to be that our obedience to God comes first. And there will be times when to obey God requires us to not do what our parents are saying. Example:***

***God may call you to be a streetworker evangelist. Your parents may want you to 'go to university first'. The ultimate direction of your life is between you and God, not your parents. BUT.....:***

- ***you would be foolish not to listen carefully to your parents and the wisdom they have (especially if they are Christians and know about following God)***
- ***don't just respond to "I feel God is calling me.....", talk to other Christians, pray for other confirmations***
- ***You have to have a strong/good reason***

***to go against your parents' advice, but by the same token they are 'exasperating' you if they are trying to run it for you.***

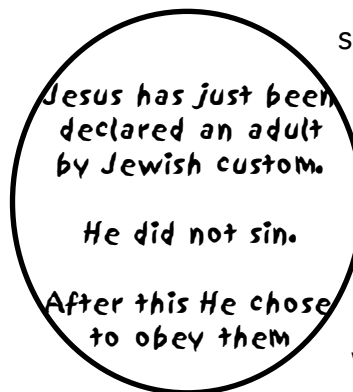
***Not easy to get any of this right.....it takes love, prayer and mutual understanding because its a 2 sided relationship. In the end, if you go against what your parents say make sure you never stop honouring them (valuing and respecting). Finally, consider this passage from Luke 2 in the light of all the above:***

After the Feast was over, while his parents were returning home, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem, but they were unaware of it. Thinking he was in their company, they travelled on for a day. Then they began looking for him among their relatives and friends. When they did not find him, they went back to Jerusalem to look for him. After three days they found him in the temple courts, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. Everyone who heard him was amazed at his understanding and his answers. When his parents saw him, they were astonished. His mother said to him, "Son, why have you treated us like this? Your father and I

have been anxiously searching for you." "Why were you searching for me?" he asked. "Didn't you know I had to be in my Father's house?" But they did not understand what he was saying to them.

Then he went down to Nazareth with them and was obedient to them.

***And then, of course there is the passage in which Jesus says:*** If anyone comes to me and does not hate his father and mother, his wife and children, his brothers and sisters--yes, even his own life--he cannot be my disciple. (Luke 14:26)



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