

## Group Discipleship Lesson

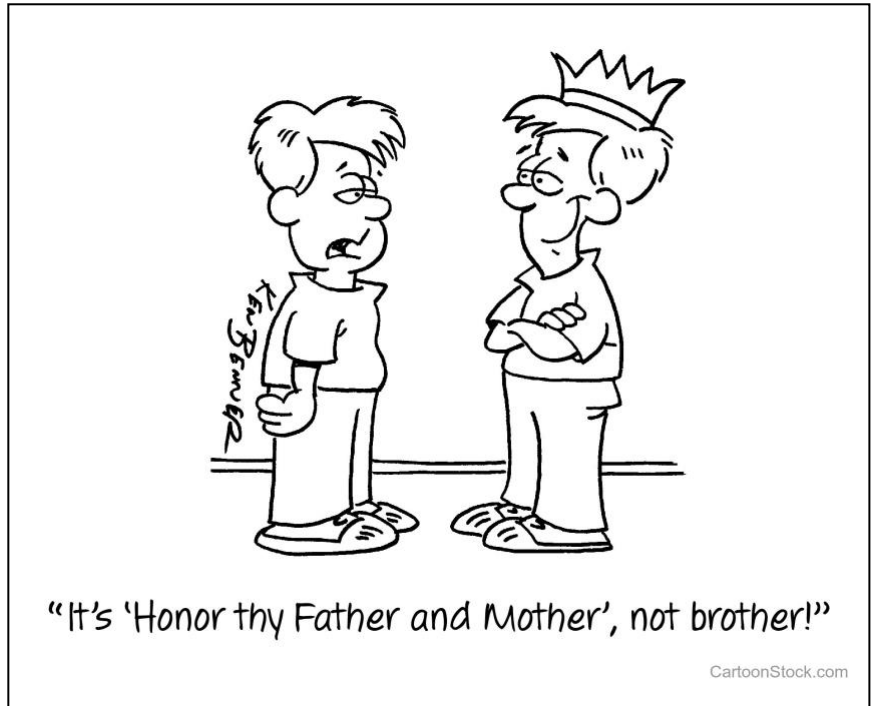
### 5<sup>th</sup> Commandment: Honor in the Family Exodus 20:12

#### Let's Get Started

The word “honor” is losing its luster.

Q: When you hear the word “honor” what images come to your mind?

Q: When you think of “honoring” your father and mother, what type of environment did you grow up in? Were you taught to honor your parents and other family members?



Q: What do you see in our culture that is contributing most to the eroding and diminishing of children and young adults honoring their parents and family?

#### Let's Go Deeper

Q: We call the first four commandments “vertical” commands. Why?

Q: We call the fifth commandment a “horizontal” command. Why?

#### Read the following heat-breaking story:

Moy Da hasn't seen his sister in nearly 40 years. Like countless Cambodian families, they were separated during the reign of the Khmer Rouge. The brutal communist regime made it official policy to dismantle the nuclear family, which it considered a capitalist relic, and divided much of the population into slave labor camps. In the confusion of what people thought was a fire-works and military celebration of New Year's Eve, the Khmer Rouge army came out of hiding in the jungle and ordered everyone in each house out at gunpoint. They marched more than one million people out to the rice fields on the four main roads that led out of the city. The family members were separated and sent to various rice farms for slave labor. Many husbands, wives, children and relatives were never to see each other again.

Q: Why do you think the first act of the rebel army was to separate the families?

Q: Look up **John 19:26-27**. What happened in this scene? How was Jesus honoring his mother?

Q: Read **1 Samuel 26**. Do you think you would you have honored Saul the way David did? Why or why not?

Q: In **Ephesians 6:2** what do you learn about the 5<sup>th</sup> commandment? It is the first commandment with a \_\_\_\_\_.

Q: What two promises does God make concerning this commandment?

Q: Back in the day, children were taught to respect and honor adults—all adults—period. Today, there is a parenting trend that teaches that parents have to “earn” their children’s respect. Do you think this is a healthy or an unhealthy trend? Why?

## **Let's Live It Out Together**

As a group, read **Proverbs 22:6**. Discuss together: Do you think this is a promise or a principle? How have you seen this work out in families? Does it always work out? Some in your group may need prayer for estranged or strained relationships between family members.

**Time of prayer:** For those who are comfortable, they may appreciate the prayers and encouragement from other group members who have seen God heal broken family relationships.

*“By this all people will know that you are my disciples if you have love for one another.”*

**-John 13:35**