



## God's Directions for Life: #5 Honor Your Father and Mother Respect the adults in your family.

Opening:

Review: We've made it to the middle of the 10 Commandments. List all the commandments we've learned so far and see if you can remember what they mean or how to follow them.

Pray: Dear God, we thank you for giving us the 10 commandments to help us live our best lives. We need your help to always get along with our families and treat each person with love. Amen.

Scripture:

The fifth commandment says to Honor Your Mother and Father. Even back in Moses' time not all families had a father and mother. So really the commandment applies to any of the adults in your home. Who is this in your house? Do you know some other families that are different?

We have been reading the Bible where Moses was given the 10 Commandments. However, this commandment comes up in the New Testament as well. Read Ephesians 6:1-3

Discuss the Meaning of These Phrases:

- “honor your Father and mother” (what does that mean?) it's more than just obeying but treating them like important people with love & respect
- “commandment with a promise” (what does that mean?) it's the first of the 10 Commandments that comes with a specific promise from God, there is a reward if you do this
- “go well with you” (what does that mean?) that God will help your life work out better, not perfect but much better than it would be if you did not obey
- “live long in the land” (what does that mean?) when God first said this it was talking about the promised land, but for Christians the promised land is mainly a life with God
- But wait - what if the adults in your family tell you to do bad things or don't take care of you? Because of sin, parents have sometimes don't treat their children as God asks. Talk

to your kids about what to do if they're ever worried about one of their friends if a friend tells them they are unsure.

Video:

Now we know all about the commandment and it's promise. But sometimes it's hard to obey our parents. (Adults: This is a good opportunity to tell the kids that this is true even for you with your parents now or when they were living. They may be surprised that adults also have to follow this commandment). And sometimes you do want to yell or be disrespectful. Let's look at this video that reminds us why we should choose to honor the adults in our families.

PursueGOD Kids - 3 Reasons to Obey Your Parents <https://youtu.be/ZFOzbvGb3uU>

Activity 1: Find some books about families. Look for examples of love and respect in the stories. You can also watch "Reading with Mimi: Amelia Bedelia's Family Album" at <https://youtu.be/9N5w5yLrrC8>.

Activity 2: Turn on "We Are Family" extra loud and have a dance party.

Activity 3: Play Circle of Blessing

- Intro: One person has described a family as a circle of blessing. That circle is created when each person is loving and respectful to each other. It's also created by adults caring for their children as God asks and children honoring their families as God asks. When you honor the adults in your family. You remain in that circle of blessing. When you disobey and disrespect you are choosing to step out of the circle. Even though it may keep you from having to do the things you don't want, it also keeps all the good outside your reach. What are some things you lose when you step out? (lie - lose trust, talk to strangers - safety) What are some ways your families are a blessing? (take care of me when sick, teach me safety, celebrate my birthday) Let's play a game to remind us to Honor the Adults in our Families and stay in the circle of blessing.
- Instructions: Have kids sit in a circle on chairs. Let one kid sit on the floor in the middle of the circle. Give a beach ball to the person on the floor. The children will bop the ball to each other around the circle. If goes outside the circle, the game is over and you start again with a new person in the middle.
- Explain: Everyone on the chairs is our circle of blessing. The person on the floor is to remind us that God is at the center of our family. We want to see how long we can keep the ball going. You can bop it but not catch it. If it goes outside the circle the round is over. If lands in the middle the one on the floor will toss it back to the circle.