**Q49. Why does God give the fifth commandment: Honor your father and mother?**

So we will learn righteous submission by practicing obedience to our parents: honoring their God-given authority in attitude, word, and action. This pleases the Lord.

1. This commandment focuses on children and parents. What other areas does this commandment cover? Of all of these areas, which one do you need to do the most work in?
2. What two reasons were given for why this commandment focuses on the parent/child relationship? What type of relationship did you have with your parents?
3. What reasons/excuses do you most often use to be disobedient to God? How can we as a group encourage you to address these areas? What practical steps can you take to address these areas of disobedience?
4. How do we honor our parents? Each one of you share an example from your life of how you’ve done this well or done this bad.
5. What does it mean to obey our parents in attitude, word, and action? If you’re legally an adult, do you still have to honor your parents?
6. What two promises are given in the Exodus 20:12/Ephesians 6:1 verses? Is there ever an exception to these promises?
7. If you’re a parent, has your discipline of your child been focused on their offense to God? Ask around the table, what are some practical ways you can do this?
8. In what areas of your life do you have an authority role? How does this commandment effect your role?
9. In what areas of your life do you have a subordinate role? How does this command effect that role?
10. Considering the rod verses shared during the lecture (Proverbs-13:24, 22:15, 29:15), do you see God’s design for things like spanking? How should these verses shape our view and practice?
11. When is it okay to disobey your authorities?

*Final Application and Takeaways:*

1. In what areas of your life do you need to make changes in order to be in line with the 5th commandment? Share with the group and ask for their input on how to make those changes.
2. What area of your authority do you need to address in order to be in line with this commandment? Share with the group and ask for their input on how to make those changes.
3. Have you ever had to disobey your authorities? What were the consequences and how did you handle them? In light of tonight’s lecture, would you do that differently now?