

## SERMON OUTLINE

<b>SERMON TITLE:</b>	How to Be the Child of a Happy Mother
<b>SERMON REFERENCE:</b>	Exodus 20:12
<b>LWF SERMON NUMBER:</b>	#1179

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1) INTRODUCTION

- a) Exodus 20:12
- b) The evangelist, Dwight L. Moody, said that no man or woman who dishonors father or mother ever prospers.
- c) The command to honor our father and mother comes from the Ten Commandments.
  - i) Exodus 20:12
- d) The Ten Commandments are divided into two sections.
  - i) The first part of the commandments is about our relationship with God.
    - (1) These are called the vertical commands.
    - ii) The second part of the commandments is about our relationship to man.
      - (1) These are called the horizontal relationships.
  - e) First, we have to be right with God, then we can be right with man.
    - i) If we are not right with man, then we are not right with God.
    - ii) We cannot be right with God until we are right with man.
    - iii) All of the commands are summed up in “love God with all of your heart” and “love your neighbor as yourself.”
      - (1) Deuteronomy 6:5
      - (2) Matthew 22:39
  - f) God starts the second section of the Ten Commandments with the statement that we are to honor our father and our mother.
    - i) This command is a pivotal command.
      - (1) Our parents are the first people we meet.
        - (a) If we cannot learn to love and respect our parents, then it is obvious that we cannot learn to love and respect anyone else.
        - (2) God is saying that the religion that does not begin at home just simply does not begin.
          - (a) What happens at home is the basis of everything else.
            - (i) If the home decays, then the church decays.
            - (ii) If the church decays, then society and the state decay.
          - (b) After we get right with God, the basis of all of our relationships to everyone else and to everything else on planet Earth is in a home where we learn to honor our father and our mother.
      - ii) The word “honor” literally means “to add weight to.”
        - (1) It means “to think of them with seriousness.”
          - (a) We are to take our parents seriously, to reverence them, and to respect them.
    - g) There are four ways that we can be the child of a happy mother.
      - i) If we are the child of a happy mother, then we are going to be the happy child of a happy mother.
        - (1) In today’s message, we will look at these four ways.

2) HONOR YOUR MOTHER BY THE LIFE THAT YOU LIVE

- a) Our lives will either honor or dishonor our parents.

- b) We are to live a life of obedience, first of all to our parents.
  - i) When we are children, we are to obey our parents.
  - ii) When we are old, we are to learn to take their advice.
  - iii) Colossians 3:20
    - (1) We cannot please God by displeasing our parents.
    - (2) Obey our parents in all things.
- c) There is a blessing in obedience, and there is great danger in disobedience.
  - i) God gives a catalog of sins that contain the most terrible and horrible sins that we can think of.
    - (1) In this list, He mentions the disobedience to parents.
      - (a) Romans 1:28-32
  - ii) God says in the Old Testament that if a child was disobedient (willfully and arrogantly rebellious) to his parents, then he would be put to death.
    - (1) Deuteronomy 21:18-21
    - (2) This is how God felt about this sin and still feels about this sin; though, today, He does not exact the death penalty.
      - (a) We are living under a different economy.
  - iii) Obedience brings a tremendous blessing.
    - (1) It is well pleasing to the Lord.
      - (a) Colossians 3:20
- d) Disobedience to parents is one of the marks of the last days of a generation.
  - i) 2 Timothy 3:1-5
    - (1) In this passage of Scripture, God gives a sign of the last days and the peril of those last days.
    - (2) In that horrible catalog of sins of the last days, God mentions disobedience to parents.
  - ii) Disobedience to parents is going to invite the judgment of God upon a person's life.
- e) Ephesians 6:1-3
  - i) God said to honor father and mother, that you'll live a long life.
  - ii) What if our parents were to tell us to do something wrong?
    - (1) If anyone (a pastor, spouse, parents, etc.) tells us to do something that is contrary to the Word of God, then we ought not to do it.
      - (a) There is always the fact that we must obey God rather than men.
        - (i) Acts 5:29
        - (b) We have to interpret Scripture by Scripture.
  - iii) Little children are not old enough or wise enough to make choices as to what is right and wrong primarily.
    - (1) They have to depend upon their parents.
    - (2) Children do not understand things from a parent's perspective.
      - (a) So, God gives children parents, and the Bible says that we are to obey our parents.
- f) We honor our parents by living an honorable life.
  - i) The Bible says that a child can bring his mother to shame.

- (1) Proverbs 29:15
  - (2) Children are an extension of their parents.
    - (a) Their life is in us, and we are an extension of them.
  - ii) It can bring us joy when our parents are proud of us.
- 3) HONOR YOUR MOTHER BY THE LOAD THAT YOU LIFT
- a) We are to help our parents.
  - b) Children are to be taught honesty, industry, and integrity in the home.
    - i) Children sin against their parents if they do not help them in the home.
    - ii) Parents sin against their children if they do not teach them to work.
    - iii) When we are young, we are to help our parents.
  - c) When we are old, we are to care for our parents.
    - i) There is a serious problem in our age, and it is the care of the old and elderly.
      - (1) The more pagan a society gets, the less that society cares for the aged and the infirmed.
        - (a) Something like this is happening in America as America becomes more and more pagan.
      - ii) The Bible teaches that we cannot use our religion, our church going, or our church giving as an excuse for not taking care of our parents.
        - (1) Matthew 15:3-5
          - (a) This passage of Scripture is talking about someone who was going to give a gift to his parents but gave it to a charity instead.
          - (b) Anyone who worships God and does not take care of his parents is a hypocrite.
            - (i) “In vain they do worship Me.”
              - 1. Matthew 15:9
        - iii) The Bible teaches that anyone who does not take care of his parents is worse than an infidel.
          - (1) 1 Timothy 5:4
            - (a) Before going out into the community or in the church or out into society, we must first show piety at home.
          - (2) 1 Timothy 5:8
            - (a) A person doesn’t even make it up to infidel status if he doesn’t take care of his own.
            - (b) Many people use this passage to say that parents ought to take care of their children, but that is not what it is talking about.
              - (i) This verse, read in context, is talking about children providing for their parents.
- 4) HONOR YOUR MOTHER BY THE LESSONS THAT YOU LEARN
- a) Proverbs 1:8-9
    - i) This passage is not talking about chains of bondage.
    - ii) This passage is talking about chains of ornament, like a gold chain.

- (1) When we listen to the advice of our parents, we learn from them.
- b) The older a person gets, the smarter his parents become.
  - i) It does not mean that they are smarter than us or that we are smarter than our parents.
  - ii) It means that our parents have experienced and seen things that we have yet to experience or see.
  - iii) The Bible says that to learn from our parents is “like an ornament of grace around our necks”.
    - (1) Proverbs 1:9

#### 5) HONOR YOUR MOTHER BY THE LOVE THAT YOU LAVISH

- a) We are to love our parents with a great and lavish love.
  - i) Their lifeblood flows in us.
    - (1) Their very life is in us, and they would give their life for us.
- b) The closest thing on this Earth to the love of God is the love of parents for their children.
  - i) It is the greatest illustration of the love of God.
  - ii) We are to return this love.
- c) If our parents are still living, then we should pay that visit to them now, send that gift to them now, or do whatever else we have been intending to do now.
- d) We could write a thank-you note to our parents.
  - i) Shakespeare once said that sharper than a serpent’s tooth it is to have a thankless child.
- e) We are to respect our parents.
  - i) There are no perfect parents.
    - (1) Only perfect children can demand perfect parents.
    - (2) Children are not the only ones who go through stages; parents go through stages, too.
  - ii) Leviticus 19:3
    - (1) In this passage, the word “fear” means “reverence.”
  - iii) Leviticus 20:9
  - iv) Proverbs 30:17
- f) Show your parents love, and do it now.

#### 6) CONCLUSION

- a) You are to show love and honor to your parents.
- b) There are four ways that you can be the child of a happy mother and the happy child of a happy mother:
  - i) By the life that you live.
  - ii) By the load that you lift.
  - iii) By the lessons that you learn.
  - iv) By the love that you lavish.

- c) Be good to yourself, and honor your father and your mother that it may be well with you.
- d) Before you can have a right relationship with your earthly parents, you must first have a right relationship with your heavenly Father.
  - i) Do you know the Lord Jesus Christ personally? If not, you can pray to Him today by asking Him to come into your life.
- e) Call upon Jesus today. Repent (turn) from your sins, and turn to Jesus. Ask Him to forgive you of your sins, and acknowledge Him as Lord of your life.
  - i) Romans 3:23
  - ii) Romans 10:9-10
  - iii) Romans 10:13
  - iv) Acts 16:31
  - v) John 3:16