

UPPER ROOM ADULT BIBLE CLASS

Fall/Winter, 2018

Pastor Jim Otte

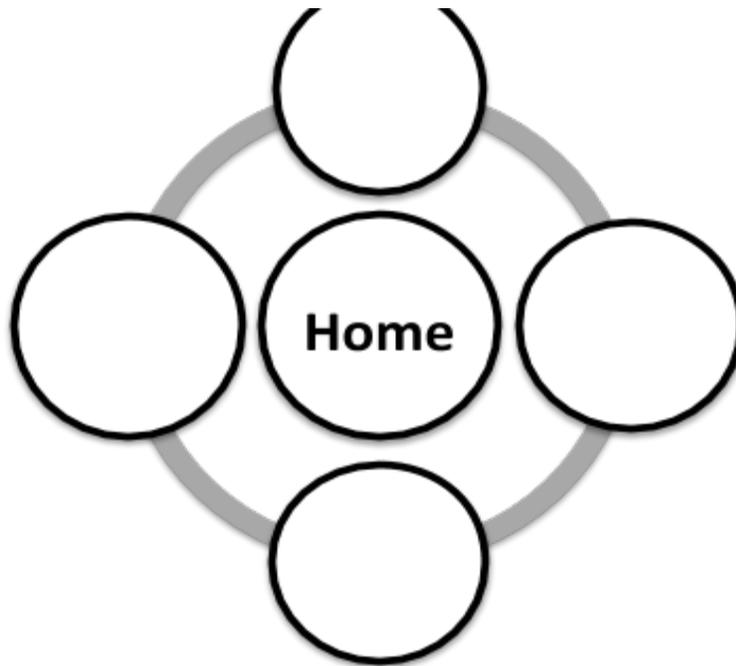
“Foundational Truth for a Confused World: The Ten Commandments”

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Session Ten: The Fourth Commandment – “Honor your father and your mother, that it may be well with you, and you may live long on the earth.”

From Last Session:

1. Honoring your parents sets the foundational pattern for honoring others in authority.
2. How parents treat people in authority, including talking about them at home or in public (social media), teaches their children how to do it, too.
3. Parents are to be honored no matter how “strange” they are! (M. Luther)



- a. Extensions of authority include?
 - i. Home Owners Associations (HOA)
 - ii. School Boards
 - iii. ICE
 - iv. In-Laws (parents of your spouse)
 - v. Speed Traps & Red Light Cameras
 - vi. Little League or Major League Umpires
2. **What is the benefit of the existence of authority?**

- a. Sole authority rested with God prior to the Fall into SIN.
 1. God asserted His authority by creating the Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil.
 2. He established the boundary of forbidding their tasting of the Tree – for their good!
 - b. After the Fall, God established authority in the world, because of the chaos which SIN creates!
 1. Authority is God’s gift for our good.
 2. Maintains order and stability of life.
 3. Curbs the abuse, which occurs when people live only for themselves.
 4. Authority can be abused!
 - c. Respect for the boundaries, established by authority, is first taught in the home with the words, “Yes,” and “No.”
 1. *What is your earliest memory of being told “No?”*
 2. *How did you react?*
 3. *How well do you handle “No” when you hear it as an adult?*
 - d. **Foundational Truth #21:** When the respect for the boundaries of authority is not learned at _____, then people have to learn it “the hard way,” from teacher, employers, and law enforcement!
 - e. Learning to respect boundaries teaches the difference between “rights,” “responsibilities,” and “privileges.”
 1. *What is the difference between the three?*
 2. *How do/did the ‘authority’ in your life teach you the difference?*
3. **Are there limits to “honoring” one’s parents? How might we practice honoring with gratitude and mercy, given the realities of...**
1. Challenges in aging: ability to care for aging parents: memory care; skilled nursing facilities; nursing homes;
 2. Abusive parents?
 3. Mental illness?
 4. When the children become “adults?”
 - a. Can you “honor” your parents without “obeying” your parents?
 - b. If your parents disapprove of a decision you make, how ought you to handle it?
 5. What responsibilities do parents have to children?
 - a. **Ephesians 6:1-4.** *Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right.* ² *“Honor your father and mother”—which is the first commandment with a promise—* ³ *“so that it may go well with you and that you may enjoy long life on the earth.”*^[a]
⁴ *Fathers,*^[b] *do not exasperate your children; instead, bring them up in the training and instruction of the Lord.*

- i. **“exasperate your children”** – bringing your children to the despair of:
 1. Feeling that no matter what they do, you’ll never be satisfied with them.
 2. Fearing that your love is conditional.
 3. A divided home in which each parent undermines the other: too harsh/too lenient

4. What is the responsibility parents have to teach/model their relationship with Jesus?

- a. ***Deuteronomy 11:16-19.*** *Be careful, or you will be enticed to turn away and worship other gods and bow down to them. ¹⁷ Then the LORD’s anger will burn against you, and he will shut up the heavens so that it will not rain and the ground will yield no produce, and you will soon perish from the good land the LORD is giving you. ¹⁸ Fix these words of mine in your hearts and minds; tie them as symbols on your hands and bind them on your foreheads. Teach them to your children, talking about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up.*

b.

5. What challenges do Christian parents today face?

- a. Households with absent fathers.
- b. Substance abuse.
- c. Tablets are the new babysitters.
- d. Distracted or thoughtless parenting.
- e. Sunday morning sports/activities for kids.
- f. Ignorance of what kids are doing online.