



YOUTH INSTRUCTION CLASS

LESSON 13: THE FOURTH COMMANDMENT - PART 2

Review

Who are our *superiors*? According to the fourth commandment, how should we treat them?

God has placed other representatives over us to whom we are to be obedient. There are also times when He might place us in positions of authority. We are to handle both positions responsibly.

For our own good God has placed others over us in our home, in church, in government, in school, and in our place of employment. God has something to say not only to those who are under others, such as children, church members, citizens, students, and employees. He addresses also those who are over others, such as parents, pastors, government officials, teachers, and employers. The Table of Duties in the catechism (pp. 18-21) includes not only the duties of those under others, but the duties of those over others (Luther's *Large Catechism*).

Table Of Duties



IN THE HOME

AS A PARENT:

Proverbs 13:24	(234)	_____
Proverbs 22:6		_____
Colossians 3:21		_____
Ephesians 6:4	(213)	_____

- In the Bible, Eli did not carry out his role as a parent in his home and it led to much trouble (1 Sam 3:13).
- Parents should consider that they owe obedience to God, and that, above all, they should earnestly and faithfully discharge the duties of their office, not only to provide for the material support of their children ... but especially to bring them up to the praise and honor of God ... We must spare no effort, time and expense in teaching and education our children to serve God and mankind ... Let everybody know that it is his chief duty ... to bring up his children in the fear and knowledge of God (Luther's *Large Catechism*).

- If God would ever give you children of your own, what are some of the things you should do for them as parents?

AS A CHILD:

Proverbs 23:22 (229) _____
Colossians 3:20 _____

- In the Bible, Joseph carried out his responsibility toward his father by obeying him (Gen 37:13-14).
- You are to esteem and prize your parents as the most precious treasure on earth. In other words, you are to behave respectfully toward them, and not address them discourteously, critically, or censoriously, but to submit to them and hold your tongue, even if they go too far. You are also to honor them by your actions, serving them, helping them, and caring for them when they are old, sick, feeble, or poor (Luther's *Large Catechism*).



OUTSIDE THE HOME

RESPONSIBILITIES OF GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS:

Romans 13:3-4 (218) _____
1 Timothy 2:1-2 _____
1 Peter 2:14 _____

RESPONSIBILITIES OF CITIZENS:

Romans 13:7 (232) _____
Titus 3:1 _____

- In the Bible, David honored the one whom God had placed over him. He refused to take the life of King Saul when he had the opportunity (1 Sam 24:1-7).



IN THE COMMUNITY

RESPONSIBILITIES OF EMPLOYERS:

Ephesians 6:9 (347) _____
Colossians 4:1 _____

RESPONSIBILITIES OF EMPLOYEES:

Colossians 3:22-25 _____
1 Timothy 6:1-2 _____

For further Bible Study:

Does the Bible
actually say that
slavery in itself is
wrong?

What does it say
about slavery?



IN THE CHURCH

RESPONSIBILITIES OF CHURCH LEADERS:

Acts 20:28-32 _____
Titus 1:7 _____
1 Timothy 3:1-13 _____

RESPONSIBILITIES OF CHURCH MEMBERS:

Luke 10:16 (187) _____
Hebrews 13:7 (217) _____
1 Timothy 5:17-18 _____
1 Thessalonians 5:12-13 _____

- In the Bible, Lydia honored those who brought her the word of God by inviting them into her home (Ac 16:14-15).
- The name spiritual father belongs only to those who govern and guide us by the word of God ... Since such persons are fathers, they are entitled to honor, even above all others. But they very seldom receive it, for the world's way of honoring them is to harry them out of the country and grudge them as much as a piece of bread (Luther's *Large Catechism*).

The Commandment With a Promise

What promise does God add to the fourth commandment to encourage obedience?

Ephesians 6:1-3

Is a "good" life or a "full" life always measured in years?

Could someone who dies at a young age still have had a good life?

How might things "be well with you" when you obey your parents?

- This, then is the fruit and the reward, that whoever keeps this commandment will enjoy good days ... For, in the Scriptures, to have a long life means not merely to grow old but to have everything that pertains to a long life - health, wife and child, livelihood, peace, good government, etc (Luther's *Large Catechism*).

Conclusion

Is there ever a time when we might have to disobey our parents and superiors?

Acts 5:29 (239)

God does not ever want us to do something contrary to what He has told us in His Word, even if our parents or superiors have told us to do it.

What do we learn about ourselves from this commandment?

How did Jesus keep this commandment perfectly for us?

Luke 2:46-52 (241)

John 19:26-27 (242)

Matthew 22:21 (338)

Assignment

- Bible Reading Schedule 10 from the book of Luke (Mon-Fri)
- Memorize the Fourth Commandment with Explanation (p. 61)