

The Ten Commandments of Parenting

Reverence and Rest—Exodus 20:7-11

Small Group Questions

Introduction:

What are some of the biggest blessings and what are some of the biggest challenges of being a parent (or grandparent).

From Last Week:

Read Exodus 20:2-6

As you think about your stage of life (as a child, adult without children, parent with children at home, empty-nester, or grandparent): what are some idols of your heart that have revealed in the midst of this season of life?

Share a circumstance that helped bring that idol to the surface.

“In all of redemptive history, from beginning to ending, God has this one ultimate goal: that his name be glorified. The aim of God in all that he does is most ultimately the praise of his glory.”
(John Piper)

How does this goal PRACTICALLY change the way you approach being a parent or grandparent? Try to give some specific examples of things you may need to rethink in your life to meet this goal.

From This Week:

Read Exodus 20:7-11

There are two ways that we can misuse God’s name: In our words and in our actions. Several examples were given this morning of ways we can misuse God’s name in our actions:

1. Road rage while you have an “I Love Jesus” bumper sticker on your car.

2. Telling your coworker you are a Christian and being a lazy worker.
3. Telling your children that God is a mighty God while fretting and worrying about the presidential election.

Give some examples from your life where you have defamed the name of God in front of your kids/grandkids by saying one thing about God but not living the implications of that truth out in front of them.

In thinking about the Sabbath Day, Matt taught this morning that we are not commanded to keep the Sabbath Day on Saturday, but we are expected to take a day to rest and worship the Lord while spending the other six days of our week working (whether at our jobs or in some other form of labor). Spend some time discussing as a group what this principle looks like when it is applied to your life situation.

Why did God give us the Sabbath Day principle? (Don’t forget to think through the four angles we discussed this morning as you answer this question.)

When the Bible was written the ideas of personal days, paid vacation, two-day weekends, and retirement were completely foreign concepts. As 21st Century Christians, we are tempted to find our happiness and contentment in the rest that is offered here on earth. However, Hebrews 4 teaches that the rest on earth is only supposed to be a shadow of the rest to come. How do we keep this straight? How do we keep from becoming so content with the rest on earth that we don’t really desire or seek the rest that is found in Christ?

Go around the group and share one way that you are practically going to seek change (whether in thinking, attitude, or actions) this week as a result of this study.