

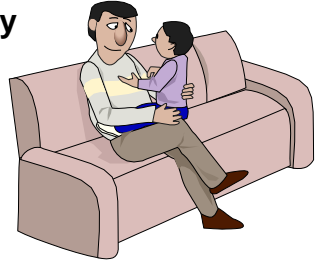
# ***Honour Your Parents***



**Distributed by Mu Nu Ministries**

**These words were given to the Jewish people as a Commandment and they came with God's promise – so that you may live long in the land the Lord your God is giving you. (Exodus 20:12)**

**The New Testament uses the word "obey" to children, then also instructs us to honour our father and mother that it may go well with you, and that you may enjoy long life on the earth. However it assumes that the father is bringing you up in the training and instruction of the Lord.**



**In some homes this does not happen.**

**We are not expected to honour this sort of behaviour.**

**When we have this example we need to find God's way to behave.**

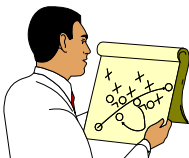
**The Bible instructs us not to get drunk, use bad language or lose our temper. This is the instruction of the Lord.**



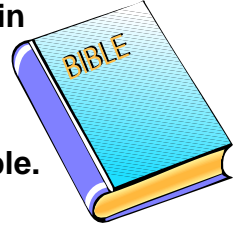
**But honouring our parents is a higher order, demonstrating that we want to go God's way in all things. This calls for great wisdom, beyond that of a child, but teenagers have grandparents, teachers and other mentors to show them a good example. When ugly things happen and we have to disagree with our parents, we can ask for advice. This is a privilege of growing up.**

**How then do we honour those in authority over us?**

**First of all we need to know that God loves us, and has called us to be "on His team".**



**A long time ago Jesus called His first followers. He just asked them to follow. There were no prior requirements or training, because we are all different, with different characteristics and gifts and abilities. Just as we join a sports team because we are interested, we join Jesus' team because we are interested. Just as we follow the instructions of the coach we are asked to follow the instructions of our leader, Jesus, and these are written in the Bible.**



**This honour we are asked to give is respect and trust. When it is difficult to trust those who give us a bad example, we need, even more urgently, guidelines and boundaries in our lives. This is the specialty of God for all who come to Him through Jesus.**

**And why do we come to God through Jesus? This is the story of the New Testament.**

**Jesus was born to be our Saviour. Christians celebrate this event at Christmas. He lived a life of perfect obedience to His Father, always doing what God asked of Him. This was the example of honour that He set for us.**



**Then He paid the death penalty for the sins of the whole world when He died on the Cross. His body was put in a rock cave but His Father, God, raised Him to life after 3 days and He spent 40 days with His disciples and then went to Heaven, where God has given Jesus a seat in Heaven at God's right hand.**

Jesus prays for all those who desire to be in His Family, which we come into by deciding we want to follow Him rather than our own ways. This choice is called repenting, and we need to make this choice every day.

The Bible tells us that God gives us the same gift that He gave Jesus. This gift is the Holy Spirit, God's character and person who comes to live in our hearts. When the Holy Spirit came to Jesus at His baptism it was in the form of a dove, but He usually comes invisibly, so we receive Him by faith.



Honouring our parents is really honouring God, since He gave this instruction. It is a great blessing when we have good and honest parents, but even if we do not, when we respect them anyway we are pleasing God, who, in His turn, respects and honours us, answering our prayers and blessing and inspiring us each day as we learn from Him.



God's love will enfold our hearts as we obey this instruction, just because we want to honour Him.



We invite you to speak to Him today. God bless you.