

a new way to **LIVE**

FAMILY, Ephesians 6:1–4 May 12, 2019

CONNECT

1. How were you most likely to disobey your parents while growing up?
2. Honor your mother (or her memory) this week by sharing a story of something she contributed to your life that nurtured and built you up.

CELEBRATE

3. How does Ephesians 6:1–4 tie into what has come before, specifically Ephesians 5:15–21?
4. How did Jesus perfectly obey His earthly parents and His father in heaven? (See John 19:25–27 & Luke 2:41–52.)
5. Read Ephesians 6:1. Paul provides one qualifier: Obey your parents “in the Lord.” What does this mean? How is this different than simply telling children to obey absolutely everything their parents say?
6. If you have a living parent, take time to connect with them this week. Ask for an example of a time when they truly felt honored by you. Also, ask them for one additional thing you could do that would honor them this week.
7. If you have left your father and mother by becoming married to your spouse, how does this impact the way you obey and honor them now? What has changed? What stayed the same?
8. How can we honor parents who make honoring difficult, such as those who are manipulative or demeaning? How can you reset expectations or establish boundaries that honor them while protecting yourself and your family?
9. Read Colossians 3:20–21 & Hebrews 12:5–11. If you are a parent, ask your child if you have exasperated or discouraged them recently. If you have sinned, apologize to them and repent as needed. By doing so, you teach them to exhort the older generation with honor and respect. (See 1 Timothy 5:1–2.)

CONTRIBUTE

10. In our culture where children are often worshiped, how can the described model of parenting stand out? What will people notice about us as we live out these commands?
11. If you have children, grandchildren or people whom you are discipling, take time this week to train them in the instruction of the Lord by leading them in service to those around you. Brainstorm a way to love your neighbor practically or lead them in a prayer walk through the neighborhood.