

May Teaching Theme: The Book of Ruth/Pentecost

讲员 Speaker: George Wong

题目 Topic: Honoring Your Parents/The Spirit Breaking Barriers

经文 Scripture: See Question 1

Monthly Theme: This month, we will begin transitioning from Easter Season (Resurrection Season) to the time of Pentecost on the Church calendar (May 23rd this year). In light of “Mother’s Day,” George Wong spoke on the vital topic of honoring one’s parents. This week we will spend some time reflecting on the practical application of honoring one’s parents.

五月 May: 五旬節季節 Pentecost Season

May 2nd – 路得記 4: 扭轉乾坤的君王寶血 Ruth 4: Reversal, Restoration, Resurrection

May 9th – 突破障礙的聖靈 The Spirit Breaking Barriers [萬國教會 Church of All People] (使徒行傳 Acts 10)

May 16th – 上主升天 Ascension of the Lord (使徒行傳 Acts 1:1-11, 詩篇 Psalm 47)

May 23rd – 五旬節 Pentecost (利未記 Leviticus 23:15-21, 使徒行傳 Acts 2) (五旬節 Pentecost)

May 30th – 重生 Born Again (約翰福音 John 3:1-21)

Resources:

[Sermon Video](#)

Discussion Questions (Pastor William R. Horne):

- (1) Read the following passages. After each passage discuss what this adds to your understanding of “Honoring Your Parents.”
 - (a) Deuteronomy 5:16
 - (b) Ephesians 6:1-4
 - (c) Genesis 2:24 & Matthew 19:3-6
 - (d) Mark 3:20-35
 - (e) Mark 7:5-13
- (2) What do you believe it looks like, as a Christian, to honor your parents? How does it look to honor our parents in situations where their wishes conflict with the Christian life?
- (3) If you are a parent, how can we be parents who are worthy of honor and don’t, as Paul says, “provoke our children to anger”?
- (4) What is one practical thing you can do this week to love and honor your parents? (Consider your own cultural context, when thinking through this question)

Important Notes (Pastor William R. Horne):

Notes on Q1: It is clear from the Biblical text that “Honoring One’s Parents” is both important and nuanced.

- *Deuteronomy 5:16:* Here we see honoring one’s parents is not a minor issue, but part of the Ten Commandments. The idea of “Honor” includes both not doing anything that would be disrespectful or harmful to our parents and acting positively for their good. “Honor” also requires one to protect their parents dignity and recognize their parents wisdom.

- *Ephesians 6:1-4*: Here the command to “obey your parents” is paired with the charge to keep from “exasperating” or “frustrating” your children. In this regard, the Scripture significantly limits a parents power by places responsibility on both children and parents in their relationship to one another. (See Notes on Q3 for more thoughts).
- *Genesis 2:24 & Matthew 19:3-6*: Here we see a priority of the marriage relationship over the parental relationship, in the children “leaving the father and mother” when they are married. Now, this does not mean that one is no longer require to “honor” one’s parents but the relationship and authority is changed dramatically.
- *Mark 3:20-35*: For our purposes, this passage let’s us know that the Kingdom of God and obedience to God takes priority over obedience and allegiance to parents. We are first to honor and obey God, then honor and obey parents.
- *Mark 7:5-13*: As we saw in the previous passage, our biological family is secondary to the Kingdom of God and our ultimate allegiance is to King Jesus. This, however, does not mean that we can use religion as an excuse for not obeying the command to honor our parents. There are times that we might need to disobey our parents to obey God, but the conflict between the two must be genuine for us to make such a decision. “Corban” was a tradition that allowed individuals to dedicate an item to God’s use in the temple. Items declared “Corban” could not be used for other purposes, so children could declare a property or funds “Corban,” thus keeping those things from needy parents. Jesus condemning the abuse of “Corban” calls us to exercise great care before assuming our parents orders conflict with God’s orders.

Notes on Q2: In our context, Chinese culture and modern Western culture take two extremes on “honoring one’s parents.” In Chinese culture (and other Asian & African cultures), under the influence of Confucius’s teachings on filial piety and hierarchy, duty and obligation to parents and elders are at the top of the list for decision making. Those in this cultural setting, recognize and accept this social responsibility and operate from it. In Western cultures, an individual’s “self-actualization and self-understanding” is of the highest priority and influence on decision making.

As Greg Jao helpfully framed it, for those culturally Asian, “love requires that they play an active and influential role in [a child’s] decision making.” In contrast, for those culturally Western, “love requires they encourage autonomy and self-fulfillment.” True love to a Western would encourage individual choice. These two cultural extremes can help us get a glimpse of the struggle of the youth in our church who are in many ways “between two worlds.”

The Biblical model is probably somewhere between these two cultural extremes, making the Christian idea of “Honoring One’s Parents” rather complex and nuanced.

Notes on Q3: The Bible balances its commands to “Honor/Obey your parents” with the assumption that a parent’s instruction is wise, biblical, and gentle. Paul tells us in Ephesians 6:4 to not “provoke our kids to anger” or “exasperate our children.” Similarly, in Colossians 3:21, Paul tells us as parents to not “embitter” or “discourage” our children. “According to Paul, a

parent's commands not only must comport with Scripture but also must be sensitive to the emotional impact of the commands on the child." (Greg Jao).

Sermon Summary (Elder Yin):

从圣经看孝敬父母

黄兴丰牧师 5/9/21

"「当孝敬父母, 使你的日子在耶和华—你 神所赐你的地上得以长久。」"

出埃及记 20:12

圣经提孝敬父母时, 视父母同样重要, 不是一个别一个重要。圣经中提到父亲比母亲多, 孝敬父母不只母亲, 而是父母。

出20:12:「当孝敬父母, 使你的日子在耶和华—你 神所赐你的地上得以长久。」"

出埃及记 20:12

1, 圣经中对孝敬父母的命令

孝敬是尊重尊荣, 孝敬是伦理中最高境界。十诫中, 前四条是人和神约, 后六条是人和人约。第五戒: 孝敬父母。

作为人要孝敬父母。孝敬母亲是后六条中最重要。也就是说做高尚的人, 如不守第五条, 即使守了没6-10条, 不够, 且比犯6-10条戒命的人更坏。华人传统和圣经象似。不孝之子比动物不如。其他宗教也讲, 但我信仰的是注重父母还活着的时候, 而不是死后。佛教在死后烧纸币, 纸房和纸车等。基督徒是在父母还健在的时候, 尊敬他们, 爱护他们。

2, 旧新约中孝敬父母的榜样,

a, 旧约: 路德,

-1:16-17."路得说:「不要催我回去不跟随你。你往哪里去, 我也往那里去; 你在哪里住宿, 我也在那里住宿; 你的国就是我的国, 你的 神就是我的 神。你在哪里死, 我也在那里死, 也葬在那里。除非死能使你我相离! 不然, 愿耶和华重重地降罚与我。」"

路得记 1:16-17

-路得所说的包括有三大考验, 1, 放弃了再婚的机会, 2, 离开舒适的环境, 3, 面对将来孤独的生活

-路得对婆婆孝心的六个"同字"

"路得说:「不要催我回去不跟随你。你往哪里去, 我也往那里去; 你在哪里住宿, 我也在那里住宿; 你的国就是我的国, 你的 神就是我的 神。你在哪里死, 我也在那里死, 也葬在那里。除非死能使你我相离! 不然, 愿耶和华重重地降罚与我。」"

路得记 1:16-17

-同心: 1:16. "不要催我回去不跟随你": 体贴婆婆的心

-同行: 1:16, "你往哪里去, 我也往那里去": 与父母同行

-同住: 1:16, "你在哪里住宿, 我也在那里住宿": 愿与父母同住的不多, 与婆婆有好关系, 实属不易。

-同国: 1:16, "你的国就是我的国": 路得牺牲自己的国

-同神: 1:16. "你的 神就是我的 神": 路得放弃自己的神, 你的神就是我的神

-同死: 1:17. "你在哪里死, 我也在那里死, 也葬在那里": 愿意伴婆婆,

b, 新约：耶稣

太19:19 耶稣与少年官对话时重申。“当孝敬父母；又当爱人如己。”

马太福音 19:19

有人说为什么耶稣30岁后才开始他的事工？因为耶稣30岁前他为尽儿子的份，和父母一起。

当耶稣被钉十架上时说看你的母亲，约19：26-27。“耶稣见母亲和他所爱的那门徒站在旁边，就对他门徒说：「母亲，看，你的儿子！」又对那门徒说：「看，你的母亲！」从此，那门徒就接她到自己家里去了。”

约翰福音 19:26-27

耶稣尊重母亲，甚至在十架上，也关注她。

3, 如何孝敬父母

-我们要奉养父母 可7：11-13a。“你们倒说：『人若对父母说：我所当奉给你的，已经作了各耳板（就是奉献的意思），以后你们就不容他再奉养父母。这就是你们承接遗传，废了神的道。

各耳板：把钱放在殿里，自己还有使用权，似乎履行一个宗教形式，就理所当然地可以不孝敬父母。耶稣指责他们法利赛律法主义。形式不解等同与形为。不要把父母当篮球，传来传去。应该把父母当成橄榄球，抱着球不放，主动安排与我们同住，帮助带领他们，象橄榄球一样，直到终点。

有些人有意做些事情要父母亲离开。老年人最重要的是安全感。常重复使他们得平安的话语，让他们觉得每天有安全感，他们象小孩子一样，要常常重复，使他们放心。

提前5:8 “人若不看顾亲属，就是背了真道，比不信的人还不好，不看顾自己家里的人，更是如此。”

提摩太前书 5:8

-在主里听从父母：带应许的诫命

“「要孝敬父母，使你得福，在世长寿。」这是第一条带应许的诫命。你们作儿女的，要在主里听从父母，这是当然的。

以弗所书 6:1-2

-很多父母教导和圣经一致

譬如以下：

要努力读书

要诚实待人

要与人和睦

要常常感恩

不要忧虑

不要偷窃

不要说慌

不要成隐

不要熬夜

不要犯罪

以上和圣经教导是一致的

-如父母教做违背圣经的

可以不从,但不可藐视父母,还要多多为他们祷告,生活有美好的见证,使他们能早日信主。

黄牧师自己的见证。父母反对他信文,但他不动摇,除了在基督信仰不听父母,其他都听母亲的。最后神感动他母亲,去了教会,2002,母亲癌,去黄牧师所住的城市做手术。师母虽怀孕但愿意接待。最终母亲接着主耶稣救主,受洗归主。

-作父母不要叫儿女失去志气。"你们作父亲的,不要惹儿女的气,只要照着主的教训和警戒养育他们。"
以弗所书 6:4

4, 我们要父母快乐

-箴言23:24-25, "义人的父亲必大得快乐; 人生智慧的儿子, 必因他欢喜。 你要使父母欢喜生他的快乐。"
箴言 23:24-25

箴10:1:"所罗门的箴言: 智慧之子使父亲欢乐; 愚昧之子叫母亲担忧。"
箴言 10:1

孝敬父母是智慧的

-使父母快乐的行为

宽容包容父母

美好的关系

陪伴

探望, 问候

使父母有安全感

圣洁不犯罪

兄弟姐妹们相爱

带父母归向主

一家敬畏神

5, 总结: 家有一老, 如有一宝

这"宝"不是指父母给我们免费服务, 看孩子, 而是父母给予我们孝敬他们的机会。我们要把握孝敬的机会, 子欲孝而亲不在, 但如你做了你能做的, 尽了你的力, 就没有遗憾。

笔者问题: 为什么牧师这里提到要原谅父母亲? 你有什么感想?

从路德记看到, 婆媳关系和谐, 现代世界上的婆媳关系较困难, 如何能改善?

什么是真正的孝敬父母?

你对"家有一老, 如有一宝"如何看待?

当父母亲所要求的, 不合理时, 如何对待?

Honor your parents from the Biblical perspective

Pastor Huang

In the Bible there is no division between mom and dad, there are three times more mention of father than mom in the Bible.

So honor both mom and dad

Exodus 20:12 honor your father and mother, that your days may be long in the land which Yahweh gives to you.

Ten Commandments

First 4 are about to pay honor to God

The next 6 are about the moral responsibility to each other, inter-personal relationships

#5 is our focus today, to honor your father and mother

It is the first one of the six, to honor parents is ahead of the rest of five, before mentioning killing, lying etc.

In our Chinese tradition, we put this honor on top of other responsibilities

It is considered worse than animals if we don't

Other religions know this, should we Christians be more than them?!

We take care of our parents when they are alive, not after they pass away

Role model examples in the Bible

"But Ruth replied, "Don't urge me to leave you or to turn back from you. Where you go I will go, and where you stay I will stay. Your people will be my people and your God my God. Where you die I will die, and there I will be buried. May the Lord deal with me, be it ever so severely, if even death separates you and me.""

Ruth 1:16-17 NIV

In the OT, Ruth

- 1)Gave up her freedom, chance to remarry
- 2)Gave up a familiar comfortable living environment
- 3)Accept lonely life

Six sameness

- 1)Same mind, with her mother in law
- 2)Walk together, wherever you go I will

Nowadays children don't like to walk with parent

- 3)Live together, none wants to live under the same roof with our parents

Keep our parents with us, take care of them, invite them to live with us, in hospitality

Today we need modern Ruth

- 4)Same nation, give up her nationality, her familiar language, culture, to face the unknown,
- 5)Same God, chose the Lord of Naomi. The failure of king Solomon was to let the princesses he married kept their idolatry worship

Your God will be my God

- 6)Die together, bury at the same place

Ruth even swear for severe punishment from Yahweh if she did honor Naomi

In NT Jesus is our role model

Mat 19:19, Mark 10:19, Luke 18:20—honor your parents.

Some said Jesus started his ministry at 30, because he paid his piety first to his father. He asked John to take care of Mary his mother on the cross.

John 19:26-27

Learn from Jesus!

Biblical teaching about honoring

1. Take care of them.

Corban is just put money in the temple, yet still have right to use the money, it's not tithe

Mark 7:11-13a Jesus scolded Pharisees, who paid their tithes but neglected parents.

Cannot treat parents like a basketball, only keep three seconds long, throw it to other siblings

But treat parents like football 🏈, hold on tightly, not let it go. Initiate and invite parents to live with us, keep them, let them feel safe, sense of security, reassure them everyday

1 Timothy 5:8 "Anyone who does not provide for their relatives, and especially for their own household, has denied the faith and is worse than an unbeliever."

1 Timothy 5:8 NIV

2. Obey parents in the lord

Proverbs 1:6

"Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right."

Ephesians 6:1 NIV

Many teachings from our parents align with biblical teachings

What about unbelieving parents ask Christian kids do not believe Jesus, do not go to church? Pastor Huang was from an idol worshiping family, mom scolded him daily. But he listened to mom on other aspects of life and honored her, as a good testimony. Eventually she turned to Jesus

Fathers don't provoke your children

Ephesians 6:2

Parents use God's words to teach children, therefore children obey God

3. Bring joy and happiness to our parents

Proverbs 23:24-25; 10:1; a wise son makes parents glad;

Forgiving

Keep good relationship

Accompanying them

Visit often, be with them in person

Bring sense of security

Lead a holy life

Love and in peace with siblings

Pray for them, bring them to the Lord

Fear God

So our days in the land God gives will be long.

Serious issue! Otherwise Israelites would be driven out of the promise land

Ephesians 6:2

So you can live a long life

Parents are our living treasures

not a free nanny,

Still chance to take care of them

Sad moment when you want to honor, they have already passed away