



<b>DATE</b>	May 8, 2016
<b>SPEAKER</b>	David Smith
<b>TITLE</b>	Honor
<b>SERIES</b>	“Honor your father and your mother.” It’s one of the oldest and most important aspects of a good family. The surprise is not that we need to honor, it’s that we are to honor them no matter what! Ask any parent and they will tell you that they’re not a perfect parent. Help us celebrate Mother’s Day while learning how to honor in every situation.

1. Share some cherished memories you have of your mother. How can those memories be a chance for you to honor her?
2. Have the qualities of a "good" mother changed over the years? How are mothers today different and/or the same as those raising children 50 or 100 years ago?
3. Read Exodus 20:12. Pastor David said it’s the one commandment that comes with a promise. Why do you think God gave a promise with this command and not any of the others? Can you think of examples where you’ve seen promise to be true?
4. Discuss the ideas of feeling respect for someone and treating someone with respect. Are they one and the same or can they be different? If so, how might you demonstrate one without the other?
5. In today’s message, David quoted author Dallas Willard.

*A long and healthy existence requires that we be grateful to God for who we are, and we cannot be thankful for who we are without being thankful for our parents, through whom our life came...We cannot reject ourselves and love God. – Dallas Willard, The Divine Conspiracy*

What do you think Dallas Willard means by “rejecting ourselves?” Discuss different ways you think people reject themselves. How does that impact relationships and specifically, how does it impact honor and respect? How might forgiveness fit into this?

6. Pastor David said: *Rejecting our parents is rejecting ourselves. And rejecting yourself makes it hard to love God.* Can you think of an example of this you either seen in life or in scripture?

7. Jesus spoke of Honoring his father in heaven (John 8:49) in his debate with the Pharisees. Thinking about Jesus’ life and ministry in the context of today's sermon, how did Jesus honor his Father? Can you point out different examples in scripture where Jesus demonstrated this? How can those examples serve as a template for us?

8. Pastor David said: *Whether they’re great, good, terrible parents, it doesn’t matter. It’s about honoring their posit in our life. It is acknowledging that God gave us the opportunity to choose.*

Do you agree with this? Disagree? Want to add an amendment?

Conclusion:

Some parents are easier to honor than others. Yet we are commanded as Christians to honor them without condition. Reflect on a specific way you can honor your mother.