



Daily Verse and Comment

Exodus 20:12

(12) Honor your father and your mother so that your days may be long upon the land which the LORD your God gives you.

A Faithful Version

In God's eyes—and in a small child's—a parent stands in the place of [God](#) Himself. In the physical sense, parents are the child's creator, provider, lawgiver, teacher, and protector—and sometimes even savior. A child's response to this relationship will greatly determine his later response to larger relationships in society. And it is ABSOLUTELY CERTAIN to affect his relationship with God. Thus, since parents represent God, it becomes their **obligation** to live lives worthy of that honor. Ultimately, the responsibility for keeping this commandment falls on the child, but it *begins* with the parents through child training and example. If parents neither provide the correct example nor teach the correct way, they can hardly expect their children to honor them.

— John W. Ritenbaugh

To learn more, see:

[The Fifth Commandment \(1997\)](#)

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