



Shepherd's Path

A Shepherd's Personal Devotions

Mother's Day Special, Lesson 51

Lesson Title: Honor Mom

Take Home Point: Honor Mom; give her a hand.

Warm-Up:

In the city in which I have lived for many years, there is a social organization made up primarily of popular civic leaders and the wealthy elite that holds an annual "coronation" of a king and queen with their attendants. I find it both interesting and disturbing that the composition of the royal couple is quite predictable. The "king" is an older married gentleman, good family man, culturally active, etc. His "queen," on the other hand, is an attractive, unmarried young adult woman. To me this speaks volumes of a cultural perspective that does not hold adult women, especially mothers, in very high regard. Why isn't the "queen" a mature equivalent to the "king," someone who exemplifies wisdom based on experience and a productive life of motherhood and service either professionally or in the community?

Read: Ephesians 6:1-3; Proverbs 31:28-31

Observation (What happened?):

What is unique about the commandment Paul quotes?

What is the most praiseworthy attribute a woman can have?

Interpretation (What does it mean?):

What does it mean to "honor" your mother? How is honor demonstrated?

Why do you think God shows such honor to mothers and motherhood?

Insight:

Do you know God's ultimate expression of the exalted position of motherhood? How did Jesus come to be among us? He was born of a woman. Mary raised him from infancy to manhood. God could have chosen any way he wanted to send his only Son to earth, but he chose motherhood. I know there are a number of reasons God chose this way, but we should not lose sight of the fact that the Son of Man needed a mother. It's impossible to imagine their relationship over the years, but they must have stayed close. When he was suffering so cruelly on the cross, whom did Jesus remember? His mom. *"When Jesus saw his mother there, and the disciple whom he loved standing nearby, he said to his mother, 'Dear woman, here is your son,' and to the disciple, 'Here is your mother.'"* (John 19:26-27 NIV) God created Eve with the ability to give birth and love her children. He gave a command to honor our mother. Jesus cared for his mother while dying on the cross. We certainly owe our moms all the honor we can give.

Application (What does it mean to me?):

How do you show honor to your mother (even if she is no longer living)?

Pray for the children in your small group to honor mothers, and women in general, and resist our culture's perspective and influence.