

WELCOME (15 minutes)

- **Ice Breaker:** Which of your parents are you most like – how?

WORSHIP (10 minutes)

- Sing #6, “Good Good Father” from the **2016 Small Group Worship CD**.

WIN (15 minutes)

- **PRAY** for your list of people who need to know Jesus as their Savior!
- **PLAN** something to do to reach out together to these people

WORD (25 minutes)

Read: In this session we examine the 6 Commandments that focus on honoring God in our relationships. One of the primary ways we show our love for God is by loving others who are made in His image. The 10 Commandments are not merely a list of don'ts. They are an expression of how Christ transforms us to live as citizens of His kingdom.

Have everyone open their Bibles to Exodus 20.

Point #1 – We honor God by honoring our parents – Have someone read Ex 20:12.

Discuss: How we relate to our parents provides a foundation for all our relationships, especially our interactions with those in authority. The Hebrew word translated “honor” means *to make weighty* and carries a positive sense of giving respect in abundance. Because all human parents are sinful, they may be “worthy” of honor in varying degrees. But God does not call us to weigh our parents’ worthiness and then decide whether or not to honor them. He calls us to honor them as a way of honoring Him, of recognizing His authority in our lives. How does your relationship with your parents impact how you view God?

Read: “While on the cross [Jesus] commits His mother to the disciple, teaching us to show every care for our parents even to our last breath.” – Chrysostom (circa 347-407)

Discuss: Jesus not only gave us an example of honoring parents; He also fulfilled this Commandment and then died to pay for the sins of dishonor that we have shown over the years. If you are a parent, how can you intentionally model for your children what following Jesus looks like? How does the gospel apply to your regrets, either as a child or as a parent?

Point #2 – We honor God by loving our neighbors – Have someone read Ex 20:13-16.

Discuss: Living in a way that honors God begins in the home, but it extends to other relationships as well. Have someone read Matthew 5:21-22. Jesus extended the prohibition of murder much deeper! He was even concerned with how we *FEEL* about others. When we harbor hatred in our hearts, we disavow the created worth of another person and write them off – just as if we had killed them. Why does Jesus connect murder to a hateful heart?

Discuss: Have someone read Matthew 5:27-30. Just as Jesus connected murder back to an angry heart, He connected adultery back to a lustful heart. In what ways can Christians guard against potentially compromising situations?

Discuss: Why are we prone to steal? Because we do not trust the provision of God! At its core, theft is a form of self-worship. We steal because we prefer self-reliance rather than trusting. Have someone read Matthew 6:19-21 where Jesus puts possessions in their proper place. What are some things you try to find satisfaction in apart from God?

Discuss: The ninth Commandment forbids us to bear false witness against our neighbors. Throughout the Old Testament, God expressed His hatred for lying lips and declared truthfulness to be a requirement for His people. Read together: Psalm 5:6; Proverbs 6:16-19; and Psalm 15. How can we cultivate truth-telling in our homes?

Point #3 – We honor God by cultivating a heart of contentment – Have someone read Ex 20:17.

Read: Coveting is not just an obsessive desire to have something. It is being convinced that we can truly delight in someone or something more than God and be fulfilled. Left to our own devices, we will always choose to fulfill our desires over trusting God to fulfill us. We need rebirth through Christ to stop the restlessness in our hearts AND we need consistency in God's Word and the close community of each other to continually reveal our idols!

Discuss: Have someone read Philippians 4:11-13. Paul said we *LEARN* contentment. That means finding contentment takes work! How do my reactions show that I am content and trusting in Christ's provision? What practical steps am I taking (or might I begin to take) to help better teach myself to be more content?

For next time encourage your people to read Exodus 29-40.

WORKS (25 minutes)

- Break into smaller groups of 2 or 3's of the same gender to pray for each other.