

<u>Session Nine</u>: The Fourth Commandment – "Honor your father and your mother, that it may be well with you, and you may live long on the earth."

From Last Session:

- **1.** Gratitude and mercy are wonderful by-products of a life focused on worshipping the God who calls you His "beloved."
- **2.** Gratitude comes out of knowing what God has done for you, and of how desperately you needed His love & forgiveness.
- **3.** Mercy is God's treatment of you in spite of your sinning.
- **4.** Gratitude and mercy are the lenses through which we live in "loving our neighbor as ourselves" (Commandments 4-10).

<u>Exodus 20:12.</u> "Honor your father and your mother, so that you may live long in the land the Lord your God is giving you.

- 1. <u>Foundational Truth #19</u>: Honoring your parents _____ the foundation for giving honor/respect to those in authority over you, i.e. teachers, law enforcement, pastors, government, etc.
- 2. **Foundational Truth #20**: Children learn ______ to treat (honor) their parents by watching how their grandparents are treated (honored).
- 3. What does it mean to "honor" one's parents? Luther said this way:

Martin Luther (Large Catechism) "For it is a far higher thing to honor someone than to love someone, because honor includes not only love, but also modesty, humility, and submission to a majesty hidden in them. Honor requires not only that parents be addressed kindly and with reverence, but also that, both in the heart and with the body, we demonstrate that we value them very highly, and that next to God, we regard them as the very highest. We must, therefore, impress this truth upon the young that they should think of their parents as standing in God's place. They should remember that however lowly, poor, frail, and strange their parents may be, nevertheless, they are the father and the mother given to them by God.

"Honor" – to be held in distinction and esteem, as the most precious treasure on earth; serve, help, and provide in their old age.