

Family Worship 2022

July 11-16

Deuteronomy 5:16

Kids and Parents: See if you can unscramble the daily
KTFK - Key Thought for Kids (Answers on back page)

This week we begin our series on the second table of the Ten Commandments, the will of the LORD for our relationships with others. The first of these commandments deals with the structures of life in this world, using as its chief example, the relationship between children and parents. As we reflect on this commandment this week, consider the various structured relationships that God has ordained in this life for our good and the degree to which you are gratefully embracing them.

Monday, July 11 - Read Deuteronomy 5:16

1. Why do you think the relationship between children and parents is the chief example of the God-ordained structures in this world that we need to humbly embrace?
2. What kind of parenting is assumed in the commandment?
3. How central is the parenting of a child in that child's quality of life and his/her ability to become a mature individual who is a blessing to God and others?
4. How is the potential benefit to the child of his/her parents good parenting connected to "things going well for them"?
5. How does the multiplication of this dynamic in the lives of all create a land that is conducive to things going well for all?
6. How does the training that good parents give to their children prepare them for living well in the other structures that God has ordained for them in this world?
7. What does it really mean to honor our parents?
8. In what ways does that change throughout our lives?

KTFK: people who / aright we / ordered decree. / If we / will know / will grow / of his / to be, / the joys / honor them

Song: "A Christian Home"

Prayer: "LORD God, we pray that you would give us a passion for this all-important structured relationship between parents and children. As parents, help us to take seriously the responsibility you give to raise our children to know, love and obey you. Let us not deny this responsibility or allow others to take it from us. And may we as children humbly receive the gift of nurture and training that our parents provide for us, even though they, like us, are imperfect people, constantly dependent on you for strength, wisdom and guidance. Amen."

Tuesday, July 12 - Read Deuteronomy 5:16

1. A second structured relationship that God has ordained for this life is the Husband/Wife relationship. Read Ephesians 5:22-33.
 - a. How is it structured?
 - b. Why do you think God has structured this relationship in this way?
 - i. Does this mean that God sees the wife as a less valuable or less capable human being?
 - c. Would you say that men and women are essentially the same or would you

Friday, July 15 - Read Deuteronomy 5:16

1. The fifth structured relationship that God has ordained for life in this world is the church/believer relationship. Read Hebrews 13:17
 - a. How is this relationship structured?
 - b. Does this mean that there are different levels of Christians where some are more important than others or have more of the Spirit than others? (see Matthew 24:45-51)
 - c. So, do all Christians have an equal amount of knowledge and spiritual discernment, then? (see Ephesians 4:1-16)
 - d. Why do you think God has ordained this structured relationship?
 - i. If all believers are equal in their standing before God, why does he ordain leadership and the gifts necessary for it to some?
 - ii. Based upon what is said in Hebrews 13:17, how should those who are called to this leadership feel about this?
 - e. What area of life does this relationship bring order to?
 - f. What would the church be like if God had not ordained this structured relationship?
 - g. How well do you believe you are living within this relationship?

KTFK: lead that / and cherished / serve light. / Though we / order will / equal worth / some to / sight, he / in his / has chosen / are of

Song: "Jesus, With Thy Church Abide"

Prayer: "LORD God, we ask that you would help us to live as a body of believers within the ordered structure that you have ordained for us. May our leaders be filled with the Holy Spirit that they may lead faithfully and humbly. And may those who are not called to lead be faithful in support and encouragement. We want to function as you have called us, that your kingdom may be built in and among us, and you may be glorified in this place. Amen."

Saturday, July 16

Read the entire passage again and review the key thoughts from each day. Which did you find most important for you this week?

July 15 - Though we / are of / equal worth / and cherished / in his / sight, he / has chosen / some to / lead that / order will / serve light.
July 14 - May our / rulers follow / that which / God himself / has said, / that we / might all / live peaceful / lives and / not our / rulers dread.
July 13 - Let us / live and / work within / the structures / God has / made, that / justly we / may image / him who / governs earthly / trade.
July 12 - We were / made that / we should / do a / work above / all others, / a work / that will / demand the / strengths of / fathers and / of mothers.
July 11 - If we / honor them / aright we / will grow / to be, / people who / will know / the joys / of his / ordered decree.

say that they are different?

- i. How, generally speaking, are they different?
 - ii. How might the structure of this relationship seek to maximize the unique qualities of both men and women?
- d. What is the purpose of marriage? (See Malachi 2:13-16)
- i. How is God's purpose for marriage different than the purpose we often assign to it?
 - ii. How might a properly functioning structured relationship of a husband and a wife serve to best raise children for whom it will go well in the land?
- e. What other structured relationship does Paul liken the Husband/Wife relationship to in Ephesians 5?
- i. Does this surprise you?
- f. Why might it seem a bit dangerous to instruct the wife to submit herself to her husband even as the church submits to Christ?
- g. Who do you think is more uncomfortable with the God ordained structure of this relationship? Why?

KTFK: demand the / work above / We were / of mothers. / that will / made that / a work / fathers and / we should / strengths of / all others, / do a

Song: "A Christian Home"

Prayer: "LORD, we pray for godly marriages. We pray for men who truly give themselves in love for the good of their wives and for women who respect their husbands and the responsibility that God has given them to lead. May this relationship not simply be a battleground, but may it be a lifegiving foundation for godly offspring from generation to generation. Amen."

Wednesday, July 13 - Read Deuteronomy 5:16

1. A third structured relationship that God has ordained for life in this world is the Master/Servant relationship. In the modern world we know this as the Employer/Employee relationship. Read Ephesians 6:5-9 and Colossians 3:22-4:1.
 - a. How is this relationship structured?
 - b. On what grounds is this relationship structured this way?
 - i. What accounts for some people being masters and some people being servants?
 - ii. Is this a willing or a forced relationship?
 - iii. Does it in any way mean that masters are more important or more valuable human beings than their servants are before God? How do we know from what is said here?
 - c. How is the description of the dynamic of this relationship similar to the one Paul uses for the husband/wife relationship in Ephesians 5:22-33? How is it different?
 - d. How can it be that there is no partiality with God and yet God has ordained this structured relationship of master and servant?
 - e. What area of life in this world is given order from this structured relationship?
 - i. How would labor and the economy be affected if this relationship was not ordered in the way that it is?
 - f. In what ways does a good employee image Christ?
 - g. In what ways does a good employer image Christ?

KTFK: God has / trade. / may image / Let us / governs earthly / justly we / live and / the structures / him who / made, that / work within

Song: "We Are An Offering"

Prayer: "Lord God, we ask that you would govern our labor and our economic relationships as well as the rest of our lives. For those of us who work for others, help us to work as unto you, Lord Jesus, with a sincere heart, wanting to do our work as well as it can be done. For those of us who are employers, help us to lead and manage others with skill and care, knowing that we are no better or more valuable than those who oversee. May the result of this very important relationship bring glory to you and satisfaction to us, as well as the prosperity that is also a gift from your hand. Amen."

Thursday, July 14 - Read Deuteronomy 5:16

1. The fourth structured relationship that God has ordained for life in this world is the Government/Citizen relationship. Read Romans 13:1-7)
 - a. What is the structure of this relationship?
 - b. What is the purpose of this relationship? (Also see I Timothy 2:1-4)
 - i. What area of life in this world does this relationship bring order to?
 - c. What kind of society would we have if this structured relationship had not been ordained by God?
 - d. What kind of governing does Romans 13 assume?
 - i. Have there ever been times when those who did good were in danger from the authorities? How do we understand this instruction then?
 - ii. How do the boundaries of this authority mirror the boundaries of the authority figures in the other structured relationships that God has ordained?
 - e. What role do you think the second table of the law should play in the government's understanding of right conduct?
 - f. Given that God is the one who has ordained civil government, do you think he ordained it to do whatever it thought best or do you believe he has established foundational boundaries for its work?
 - g. To what degree do you believe Christians should participate in the government?
 - i. If God's people (even the church) are not clearly advocating for the God ordained work of civil government, how will civil rulers be able to fulfill the role that God has given them?
 - h. To what degree do you believe you are living appropriately in this relationship?

KTFK: God himself / lives and / rulers follow / that we / live peaceful / May our / rulers dread. / not our / has said, / that which / might all

Song: "From Ocean Unto Ocean"

Prayer: "LORD God, we pray for our civil rulers. We pray for their safety, for their wisdom, and for their hearts to be sensitive to your word and Spirit. May our rulers follow your principles so closely that we may enjoy the fullest experience of peace and order that this fallen world is capable of. Help us to be good citizens who truly seek for the good of all through the good that has been given by you in this structured relationship. Amen."