



A Year with the Catechism

(In preparation for next week.)

The Fourth Commandment

Honor your father and your mother.

What does this mean?

We should fear and love God so that we do not despise or anger our parents and other authorities, but honor them, serve and obey them, love and cherish them..

Bible Passages

Children, obey your parents in everything, for this pleases the Lord. [*Colossians 3:20*]

These should learn first of all to put their religion into practice by caring for their own family and so repaying their parents and grandparents, for this is pleasing to God.

[*1 Timothy 5:4*]

We must obey God rather than men. [*Acts 5:29*]

The eye that mocks a father, that scorns obedience to a mother, will be pecked out by the ravens of the valley, will be eaten by the vultures. [*Proverbs 30:17*]

Love your neighbor as yourself. [*Matthew 22:39*]

“Honor your father and your mother”—which is the first commandment with a promise— “that it may go well with you and that you may enjoy long life on the earth.”

[*Ephesians. 6:2-3*]

Weekly Catechism Reading

Sunday: 1 Samuel 15-26

Monday: p. 81 – Central Thought & Part 54

Tuesday: p. 81 – Part 54

Wednesday: p. 81-82 – Part 55

Thursday: p. 83 – Part 56

Friday: p. 83-84 – Part 57

Saturday: p. 84 – Part 58-End



A Year with the Catechism

Devotion

Bible Readings

Romans 13:1-7

Devotion

“I ain’t gonna tell you!” That was can be a favorite expression when growing up. No matter who asks (parent, teacher, police officer, whoever), the answer is often, “I ain’t gonna tell you.” Even as a small child, we sometimes try to express independence by keeping those in authority at a distance.

We sometimes don't like to admit that we needed to have the policeman to keep the crooks away. We don't want to admit that we needed to have teachers to instruct us in what we needed to learn. We don't want to admit that we needed to have parents, pastors and all in authority over us to guard and protect us, to love and care for us.

We want to be independent, to be free of all obligation to others and free of our need to have them in our lives. We push away our parents, our government, even our church, and all those who can help us in our lives, because we want to be on our own. We even try to push God away because we think that we can do it without Him, but we cannot do it without Him.

We would be lost in our sin were it not for what God has done for us in Jesus. Because of the forgiveness we have in Christ, we are children of God, and we receive, through all of these other authorities, the blessings God our Father showers on us. Let us honor those authorities for the sake of God who have placed them over us, and let us thank Him and them for the blessings we received.

Prayer

We give thanks for those in authority over us, including parents, pastors, the President, the Governor, the Congress, and all courts. God to give us patience to receive rule from them as we do from You. We pray also that those in authority would rule in a godly manner, that we may all have peace. Amen.