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**Speaker:** Trish Haq, Community Care Pastor

**Scripture:** Honouring Your Father and Mother

I want to start today by sharing one of my favourite pictures. This was taken just minutes after my first daughter, Aaliyah was born.



This moment is so vivid in my mind, I really don't need the picture at all, but I love that we have it because it captures one of the most meaningful moments of my life. I know it doesn't always go this way, but in Aaliyah's case, the water broke at home at 11pm on a Friday night just as we were getting ready for bed. In a frenzied excitement, we grabbed the overnight bag and headed to the hospital. After a sleepless night (our first of many), and 15 hours of active labour, Aaliyah Anne Haq made her grand entrance into the world. For a few excruciating moments, there was silence in the delivery room. Doctors and nurses crowded around her, and then, (I'll never forget when the beautiful sound of those first little cries hit our ears.) I breathed a deep sigh of relief and the joy of the moment washed over me. They swaddled her up, and she was placed in my arms. And as I held her for the very first time, I looked down at her, and she looked up at me, her eyes wide open. And in an instant, my heart was filled to overflowing with a

love for this little human being in my arms that far exceeded anything I could have imagined. I didn't know it was possible to love someone that much.

It didn't take long for the reality of the weight of what my husband Imraan and I had taken on to truly sink in. We were now responsible for this little life in my arms. It was now up to us to take care of her. To feed her and change her and clothe her and provide for her; to protect her, teach her, and encourage her; nurture her talents, guide her development, help her to grow spiritually; and love her with everything we had. All kinds of questions were on my mind. What kind of parents were we going to be? What kind of mistakes were we going to make?

I had no idea yet what her little personality would be like. What things she would be good at. What ways she would fill our life with joy. What sacrifices would be required to care for her well; and what challenges we would face as we fumbled our way through learning how to be parents. And I worried, as parents often do: would our best be good enough?

This week, as I sat down to write about this, I was painfully aware of the many possibilities of what all of you might be thinking as you hear this story. Some of you are thinking about your own kids--the ones you have, the ones you long for, and maybe even the ones you've lost. And some of you are thinking about your parents; parents who once held you in their arms and looked down at you with love in their hearts. Parents whose best was really great. Parents whose best was enough, Parents whose best fell a little short. Parents who missed the mark completely. And parents who didn't even show up. Some of you have parents who are still loving you well into your adult years, others have parents who are still making life difficult. Some of you have

parents who are aging. Parents who need your help. Parents who are sick. And parents who are no longer here.

I realize that it is with all of that on the table, that I am asking us to dive into scripture today and explore what it means to live out this commandment: *Honor your father and your mother.*

We're in the middle of a series on community: being deeply connected to one another in caring and truth-telling relationships. The reason we're looking at this verse today is because we're going to talk about our relationship to the very first community that each of us was ever embedded in: Our family.

In your family, you learned all sorts of things about your worth and value, about your identity, about how to be in relationship to others. You developed your patterns of communication, how you handle anger, how you handle conflict, how you get your needs met. All of these things took shape in that first community that you were folded into. And what you experienced in your family, and how you have carried those experiences forward in your life, has profoundly impacted the way that you engage community in the present. So we're going to look at family today.

If you're new or visiting with us this morning, please know today's sermon is a bit out of the ordinary, it isn't usually quite like this. We're a community that knows how to have fun together. We do a lot of laughing together. And there may be some laughter today as well, but the topic we're diving into today is complex, and sometimes emotional, and sometimes painful, and as I put these thoughts together, I didn't quite know how to make this more lighthearted. So bear with me--we'll get through this together!

This verse that we're looking at today, **Honour your father and your mother**, may seem at first glance like a fairly straightforward commandment, but you may be surprised to see where it takes us today.

When I think back on my first day of parenthood, I know that it was my hope that this commandment would be an easy one for Aaliyah; that she would respond well to our loving correction, and that we could be parents that she would find easy to honor. I know many of you who are parents want that for

your kids too. Maybe you're even wishing you'd brought them into the service today so they could learn a thing or two about how God wants them to honour you. As parents, we want our kids to heed this little gem of biblical wisdom. Because we know all too well that when kids obey their parents in the Lord, it makes for peaceful households. So we like this verse. Honour your father and your mother.

I think when we hear these words, what comes to mind are things like obedience and respect. Honor your father and mother. Listen and obey...the first time. Don't talk back. Heed their advice. Be grateful for what they give you. Make sure you call. Don't forget to visit. Take care of them in their old age. Value their wisdom. Always speak well of them.

Of course, all of these things can be a part of what it means to honour your father and mother. But I think it also goes deeper. This is one of the 10 commandments given to Moses by God on Mount Sinai, raised up as deeply important for God's people to live by, and it's concerned with more than just keeping children in line. There's a lot wrapped up in these 6 words, and they are repeated many times over throughout scripture, and not just in the Old Testament Law. In the gospels Jesus himself even affirms the importance of honouring your mother and father, so we know this isn't an obsolete law that only applied to the Israelites in the Old Testament. It's something that was reaffirmed as important for the early church, and it's something we are called to live out still today.

We know it should hold significant weight. But, simply knowing that it's important doesn't give us any indication of why it is important, or what it looks like to live this out today.

So, let's start with the why. In Ephesians, Paul points out that this is the first commandment that comes with a promise. "Honour your father and your mother" is only half the statement:

Here's the full verse:

*Exodus 20:12*

*Honor your father and your mother, so that you may live long in the land the Lord your God is giving you.*

I found this really interesting to think about. It doesn't say: honour your father and mother so that

THEY may live long in the land the Lord your God is giving you. In a way, this might make more sense to us. If you're a parent, you've probably felt at times like the stress of parenthood might be shaving a few years off your life. Parenthood is INTENSE. Of course, our kids bring a lot of joy, but parenthood also comes with a lot of sacrifice. Sleep deprivation. Worrying. Exhaustion. Hard work. I am sure there are more than a few grey hairs on my head today compliments of my two lovely daughters. But that doesn't seem to be what this verse is getting at. It is calling us to honour our parents so that we can thrive. Maybe it surprises you to hear that today: God's command to honour our father and mother isn't just for our parent's benefit, it's for our benefit too, and for the benefit of our community.

Really, all of the commandments, the law that God gave to the Israelites was given to them for their thriving. It was a picture of how they could live in peace with each other, and in a way that would allow them to carry out their purpose as the people of God. This was their vocation. To live as a people set apart for Him, uniquely holy, and reflecting God's identity to the world. So the 10 Commandments aren't an arbitrary list of rules to follow in order to appease God. They are purposeful, and wise, and when lived out, are intended to produce a people who are God-honouring, healthy, and whole, so they can live long in the land.

So honouring our parents is part of what it takes for us to become a community that is God-honouring, healthy, and whole.

The question we are faced with is this: how? How does honouring our parents help us and our community to flourish? To answer THIS question, we need to better understand the fullness of what it means to honour our parents.

The word honour in this verse is translated from the Hebrew word "kabad" which, directly translated, means "weight". And while it is sometimes used very literally to convey a sense of weight, or heaviness, it is often found in scripture in relation to God; to reflect giving weight to God. When the word "kabad" is used in this context, it is translated as glorify. Give "kabad" to God. Glorify God.

Acknowledge his proper place. His importance. Give Him the weight that he deserves.

So what does it mean to "kabad" your father and mother? To acknowledge their importance? To give weight to their place in your life?

I know that this is a loaded topic for many of us. Our families really do hold weight in our lives. They are important. Not only to us individually, but also to us as a community.

Family is a theme that is explored throughout all of scripture, not only in the stories of biblical characters, but also in the way that family relationships are used as examples to help us understand the nature of God and his relationship with humanity.

We're taught to pray to God as our Father and we are called children of God. Believers are known to each other as brothers and sisters in Christ because Followers of Jesus are no longer strangers...they are members of the household of God (Ephesians 2:19). Grafted into his family.

I said earlier that our families were the first community we were ever embedded in. And it is in our families that we were meant to learn about the family of God. Our families were intended to be a little microcosm of the profound unity and love of the community found in the Kingdom of God. The community found within God himself. Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, 3 in 1, existing in perfect unity. It is no mistake that we have been set into our families, called to reflect that loving, connected community to each other and to the world. Parents are called to mirror the unconditional love of God to their children. Children are called to give honour to their parents, to give weight to their position, a reflection of the glory and honour that belongs to God. And so, to be in a family is to step into a holy calling.

But it doesn't always feel like a holy calling, does it? Our families aren't always the beautiful reflection of God's love and God's glory to the world that they were intended to be. And this command to honour your father and mother, is not always easy to live out.

Of course, as adults, it's easy to honour our parents when we feel that they have been honourable. When they were supportive and encouraging and loved us

well. But there is no IF clause to this commandment. Honour your father and mother IF they are deserving of that honour. No. Unfortunately, No. And this is really hard. Whether or not they lived their calling to reflect the love of God to us, we are still required to fulfill our calling to honour them. To give them weight.

So how do we live this out when our parents have been critical, interfering, discouraging, emotionally unavailable, absent, smothering, overbearing, or even abusive. How do we live out this holy calling, to honour them, to give weight to their place in our life, in the midst of the messy brokenness that exists? The dysfunctional patterns. The disconnection. The disappointments. The unmet expectations.

I think to answer that question, we have to start by looking at what this commandment is not asking of us. Because when we misunderstand what it means to honour our parents, one of two things can happen: we run from it, because there's too much hurt, or too much anger, or it's just too messy, and we don't know how we could possibly live this out. The weight feels too heavy to bear. Or we go through the motions, doing the things we think we're supposed to do, but missing the heart of what God wants to do in us.

One passage that sometimes causes confusion is Jesus' teaching about the cost of discipleship found in,

*Luke 14:26*

*“if anyone comes to me and does not hate father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters--yes, even their own life--such a person cannot be my disciple.”*

You might hear this verse and think that Jesus is letting us off the hook. “You know that commandment about honouring your parents?...never mind! Don't worry about it.” But we know this isn't consistent with what scripture says over and over again. We aren't called to hate. We're called to love. We're called to love even our enemies. What's really happening here is a literary device called *hyperbole*. This is where you make an exaggerated statement in order to get your point across. To be a disciple of Jesus, you must be so dedicated, so committed, so passionate about

following him, that in comparison, the deep love that you have for your family seems like hate. This teaching makes the order clear: God first.

This is reflected even in the order of the 10 Commandments. The first 4 deal with our relationship with God: no other Gods. No false idols. No using God's name in vain. Set aside a day of devotion to God and rest in Him. These come first. Before God gives instructions on how to relate to each other, he tells us how we must relate to Him. God first.

Jesus, at the tender age of 12, actually modelled this for us. Last week, Matt Loveday talked about the story of Jesus, as a young boy, in the Temple. If you remember, Mary and Joseph had to go searching for him because they didn't know where he was, and at first glance, it would seem that Jesus was having a little trouble with this whole “honour your parents” thing. To Mary and Joseph, it seemed that he wasn't where he was supposed to be, he didn't stay with the group, he didn't fall in line with their expectations, and he caused them a great deal of worry and trouble. But they found him in the temple courts, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions, and amazing everyone with his understanding and his answers. It's a moment where Jesus set about doing his Father's work. Stepping into the calling he was born for. He wasn't dishonouring his parents, he was honouring them, by honouring God.

There are times in our lives, where we're faced with that kind of choice: Where the expectations of our parents don't match with what we feel God is calling us to. In those moments, our response must be to place God first. Those can be painful moments, and I've lived through some of them. I would likely be a burnt out grade school teacher today, if I had not stepped outside of my parents' vision for my life, to follow where I sensed God leading.

So honouring your mother and father does not mean obeying them at all costs, when what they're asking or expecting of you is out of line with what God desires of you. We are not truly living out the command to honour our father and mother, if in doing so, we are dishonouring God. God first.

**Honouring your father and mother also doesn't mean you have to pretend that the disappointments and hurts in your relationship with them didn't happen.** Sometimes people try to 'honour their parents' this way—by never admitting their mistakes, and never acknowledging the hurt. But avoiding the truth and misrepresenting reality is not actually an honourable thing to do. It doesn't lead to thriving. It actually limits your ability to have a genuine relationship with your parents. It means those hurts never get dealt with. And that means you will carry those hurts forward, into every relationship you engage with, including your relationship with God. Not only that, but it puts our parents in an impossible position, because we wanted them to be perfect, but perfection was never within their reach.

In University, I took a course called Family of Origin. I expected to learn a lot of theories and truths about dysfunctional family dynamics and how to help struggling families. What I didn't know was that this was going to be an experiential course. We weren't just going to learn about dysfunctional family dynamics, we were going to apply what we were learning to our own family history. And part of this application was going to be in the form of a kind of group therapy. I'll never forget the moment the professor explained this to us. You could feel the discomfort in the room. This was not what we signed up for. One of my classmates hand shot up with a question. The prof held up her hand and said: *“before you ask your question, let me just say this – every year at the start of this class, there's always someone who says: but my family wasn't dysfunctional, so how am I supposed to participate in this class?”*

Maybe that question resonates with you today. Things were pretty good in your family growing up, and honouring your parents doesn't seem like a struggle, so you're feeling like this message is for somebody else, not for you. And maybe that is true. Maybe for you, today is just a moment for you to anchor into a deep sense of gratitude for the blessing of your parents in your life. But indulge me for a moment, and listen to what the prof said next: *“let me be clear. There is no family in the world that is perfect. No family that has absolutely no dysfunctional patterns. And 9 times out of 10, the families who believe that they don't have any problems at all, are the ones with the most*

*problems. They're just hidden. Unspoken. Unexamined. And causing all sorts of pain and struggle under the surface.”* When we recognize and are working on our dysfunctional ways and bringing it to God—that's hopeful. That's where God can bring about incredible transformation. That's the space where healing can happen and genuine relationships can start to flourish. But when we're not even aware of what's going wrong, that's when we're in trouble. My classmate's hand quickly dropped back down, and by the end of the course, all of us agreed, it was the most impactful and life changing class we had ever taken. It changed our relationship to our families of origin. It changed our relationship to God. It helped us heal from dysfunctional patterns of blaming, defensiveness, anger, and perfectionism that we were living out in the present day. And these changes created capacity to develop connected, truth-telling relationships in our lives.

One of the most important statements that this course helped us all to acknowledge was this: **Our parents were doing the best that they could with what they had.**

We have to let our parents be human. If you've been denying their faults, or railing against them; pretending they were perfect, or being angry and bitter because they weren't, either way, you've been denying your parents their humanness. It's natural for kids to do this. Kids often think their moms and dads are like superheroes. They can do no wrong. They're the best parents in the world. #1 mom. Best dad EVER. It's so special in those little years to see our parents in that way. But it's also painful when our moms and dads don't live up to all we wanted and needed them to be. But even when we did face those disappointments, and saw that they weren't perfect, there's a part of us that never stopped hoping they could be. And so, the day comes, when we have to let go of that childhood longing for them to be our superheroes, and allow ourselves to take a fearsomely honest look at the imperfectness of our families.

I'm not talking about blaming your parents for everything that is wrong in your life, or anchoring into anger and bitterness about the ways they let you down. I'm not talking about shouting all their faults from the rooftops. Telling everyone you can about the ways they let you down, or processing their

failures publicly by posting on social media. None of those things would be honouring to your parents. Taking an honest look at how your parents' mistakes affected you is something you do within yourself, or with a trusted friend or counsellor. And it's something we all need to do, if we're going to genuinely honour our parents, with integrity and truth.

Whether they let us down in small ways, or in big ways, the reality of our parents' humanness can make it difficult to live out this commandment practically in our relationship with them. And you may have noticed that I haven't actually said very much today about the things we should do to honour our parents. This is partly because our family situations are all so different. It's also because I'm not so sure how helpful it would be. In some ways, you'd probably really like it if I could just give you a checklist...call once a week. Show up for Christmas dinner. Pray for them. Send flowers on their birthday. Check, check, check. But I think we all know, a list like that wouldn't really get to the heart of it all. Because **it's possible to live out the letter of the law, so that everything looks great on the outside, without ever addressing the heart. Without ever letting the Holy Spirit transform and heal what is broken.**

When Jesus came, he taught that he had come to fulfill the law, not to abolish it. He called us to more, not less. He taught that holding anger in your heart towards someone was enough to breach the commandment "do not murder". A lustful thought was considered equivalent to adultery. And so, if you are going to honour our father and mother, you can't just follow a check list of the right things to do, you have to allow God to set your heart right. Doing this will not only transform the way that you engage your parents, but also the way that you engage every important relationship in your life; no longer from a place of hurt and longing, but from a place of thriving.

You can do this whether your parents are in your life or not, and if this applies to you, I really want you to hear this: The rest of you, just sit tight for a minute. These next few points might not apply to you but they are so important to say today.

If your parents have passed away, you can still work through the hurts and disappointments. Honouring

them means being honest about who they were to you, and making peace with their imperfections, so that you aren't just honouring them with empty words or half-truths. Instead, allow God to lead you through it, to a place of understanding, and forgiveness.

I know for some of you, forgiveness is a scary word. Maybe it's scary because you don't want to let them off the hook for the harm that they caused. Or maybe it's scary because your parents are still alive, but the level of brokenness is so great, that having them in your life is destructive, and painful, and devastating. In our last series on gratitude, Paul preached about forgiveness, and if you missed it, you might want to go back and give it a listen because he talked about the difference between forgiveness and reconciliation. And he talked about what forgiveness isn't. Forgiveness isn't forgetting what happened, it doesn't erase the wrongs or excuse the behaviour, and forgiveness doesn't require you to let them back into your life.

You can do all this work without ever having a conversation with them. And although re-entering a relationship with your parents is a step you might decide to take, it's not a step that is guaranteed to be taken. It's not a step that you need to take before you are ready. It's a step that will require them to do some work too. And it's a step that can be taken with a whole lot of boundaries in place. It's not all or nothing, and God may show you ways that you can honour your parents that don't require you to go deeper than you are ready for. The heart level work that we've been talking about today can take months. Or years. Or decades. So I don't have timelines or rules or guidelines to give you about how you should navigate your relationship with your parents, except to encourage you to keep bringing it to God. Again and again, as often as you need to, for as long as you need and trust that as you allow him to set your heart right, the way will become clear.

And if you're a parent on the other side of all of this. A parent who has made mistakes, and has regrets, and is struggling through the pain of a fractured relationship with your kids. I'm so sorry you're going through that. I can't imagine how painful that must be. But now, you have work to do too. Because whether the broken relationship is because of mistakes you made, or because of things

beyond your control, the truth remains that you can't change them, you can only change yourself. So find a good counsellor. Do the hard work. Take an honest look at your parenting, and your own family history. Then take those things to God and allow him to do a great work in you. So that if the day comes that your kids are ready to have a relationship with you, you'll be ready. Ready to reflect a glimpse of the unfailing, unrelenting, perfect love of God to them. But even if your kids are never able to overcome their hurt and brokenness, know that God's forgiveness for you is deep and wide and complete.

Ok, we're through the hard stuff. We made it. And it's time to get to the good stuff. Literally.

**Although honouring your parents means that you can't hide from the truth about what wasn't perfect, it also means that you can't ignore the truth of what was good.** The hard stuff in our family histories doesn't cancel out the good stuff, and we can honour our parents by affirming and celebrating the truth of what was good. Whether that is something that you can do easily or something that's going to take some effort, I know that for all of us here in this room, there WAS some good. There had to be, because here you are.

So celebrate the good. Remember the fun, remember the joyful moments, remember the sacrifices that your parents made for you, remember what they did to love you the best that they could. If all of that is difficult for you, maybe the best you can do today is simply to acknowledge that if nothing else, your parents gave you life, and that's enough. That's a good start. This work takes time. As God works on your heart, He may open your eyes to see more of the good that is there to be celebrated.

As I wrap up, I want to just put that picture back up on the screen of that first moment I had with my daughter Aaliyah. I wanted to be the perfect parent for her. If you look at her for just a moment, it's easy to see why. It's easy to see that she deserves to be loved perfectly.

When you were that little, all swaddled up and taking in your world for the first time, you deserved to be loved perfectly. If your parents, for whatever reason, weren't capable of reflecting the truth of

God's love well enough; if they let you down. If their words or their actions caused you harm. That's not fair. You didn't deserve that. You deserved to be valued and treasured and protected and loved.

No parent holds their newborn in their arms for the first time and says "I'm going to do my best to really mess up this kid's life". Parents want to be able to love their kids perfectly. They do. But they can't. Because they're human.

So when I say that you need to let go of that longing to be perfectly loved by your parents, I'm not saying that you didn't deserve to be loved that way. What I am saying is that the kind of perfect love that you were made for can't come from your parents. It can only come from God.

We all need to know this. It was part of God's design that the love of a parent for a child could reflect a glimpse of the way that our heavenly father loves us, but it will only ever be an imperfect glimpse. The love that our parents have given us, no matter how well they may have done, will never measure up to the perfection of God's love for us. Only He can love us perfectly and completely.

**John 15:13 says: "Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one's life for one's friends"**

That's how much you are loved by God—so much that He would die for you. So much, that he did die for you. To overcome sin and death and every piece of brokenness in your life. He loves you that much.

So as you seek to live out this commandment to honour your parents, you can do it grounded in the knowledge that you are a child of God, immensely loved by your heavenly father.

Let's pray.

*Father God, thank you for our parents. Thank you for the ways that they've poured out their love on us, and for the way that their love reflects a small glimpse of the immeasurable depth of your love for us. Today, we want to leave in your hands all the hurt that we have been carrying, for the ways that our parents couldn't reflect your perfect love to us. Help us to let go of the longing for their support and love and affirmation, and instead, turn to you. Speak to us Lord, to each one of us, and help to anchor us into the way that you see us – as your children, valued, treasured, and beloved. And as we*

*anchor into this truth, as we stand firmly on the foundation of your love for us, help us to honour and love our parents in the ways that you are calling us to live this out.*

*Thank you Lord that you never waste a hurt. That everything we've been through, and every challenge that we face, is never out of your reach, and you are always at work, healing, redeeming, restoring what is broken. So remind us today, Father God, that you are more than enough. That you can gather up all our disappointments, all our faults, all our imperfections, all our hurts, and carry them in your mighty arms.*

*Amen!*

### **Response:**

The worship team is going to lead us in a couple more worship songs, and as they do, I want to invite you to come forward today. These weights aren't just for show this morning. I know you didn't expect to come to church this morning and do some weight lifting, but that's what we're going to do. Whatever heaviness you're feeling this morning – whether it's the weight of knowing your imperfections as a parent, or the weight of the ways your parents have let you down, or the weight of struggling with how to live out this commandment to honour your father and mother, and I want you to come to the communion table, and pick up a weight, and hold it in your hands, and just feel the weight of that burden that you are carrying. Ask God for his help, and then give the weight to God. Set it down, and remember that every time you feel that weight, you can give it back to God. Again and again, as many times as you need to, until his work for healing is complete in you.

### **Benediction:**

Our parents did their best, and some got closer to the mark than others, but it is only God who is capable of the kind of perfect love that we were made to receive.

And so we all have gaps. We all have hurts. We all have ways that our families, our first community, didn't quite measure up to be the perfect reflection of God's love and glory that it was designed to be.

And the weight of that can feel like a heavy burden.

But Jesus says:

*“Come to me, all of you who are weary and carry heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. <sup>29</sup> Take my yoke upon you. Let me teach you, because I am humble and gentle at heart, and you will find rest for your souls. <sup>30</sup> For my yoke is easy to bear, and the burden I give you is light.”*

We have to let Jesus do the heavy lifting.

So as you leave this place today: May the only weight you feel be the beautiful weight of the extravagant, unending, perfect love of God resting over you. And may that love pour out of you this week in powerful and unexpected ways. Amen!

## Points to Ponder

### **A Generous Faith ~ Honouring Your Mother and Father**

**With a friend, your family or in your small group, discuss the following questions.**

1. What was it like in your family growing up?  
If you could pick one favourite memory from childhood to share, what would it be?
2. The arrival of a new baby into a family is a very blessed moment in time. What do you know about the day that you were born? Share anything that comes to mind. What season were you born in? Where did you land in the birth order? First born? Only child? Middle child? What do you imagine about the first time your parents saw you and held you? Do you find it easy or difficult to perceive their love for you as a reflection of God's love for you?
3. When you think about God's design for families, how well do you think your family was able to love out the calling to be a loving, connected community? In what ways did your family succeed at this? In what ways was it a challenge?
4. What comes to mind when you hear the phrase "Honour your father and your mother"? Do you find it easy or difficult to honour your parents?
5. How have your experiences in your own family growing up impacted the way that you engage community as an adult? Reflect on the communities you are currently a part of. This could be your family, your church community, your neighbourhood, or other communities. What do you find challenging about being a part of these communities? What comes easily for you?
6. Do you see a connection between honouring your parents and experiencing deeply connected community? How can honouring parents help to create more, healthy, whole communities?
7. What practical things can you do to live out the commandment to honour your parents? Will it require inward heart change or outward behaviour change, or both? What next step do you feel called to take?