

PARENTS ARE A TREASURE
Exodus 20:12 CSB

Then God spoke all these words: ² "I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the place of slavery."

Exodus 20:1-2 (CSB)

"Honor your father and your mother so that you may have a long life in the land that the LORD your God is giving you."

Exodus 20:12 (CSB)

1. This guardrail PROTECTS us from OURSELVES.

There is a way that seems right to a person, but its end is the way to death.

Proverbs 14:12 (CSB)

"Therefore, love the LORD your God and always keep his mandate and his statutes, ordinances, and commands. ² Understand today that it is not your children who experienced or saw the discipline of the LORD your God: His greatness, strong hand, and outstretched arm; ³ his signs and the works he did in Egypt to Pharaoh king of Egypt and all his land; ⁴ what he did to Egypt's army, its horses and chariots, when he made the water of the Red Sea flow over them as they pursued you, and he destroyed them completely; ⁵ what he did to you in the wilderness until you reached this place; ⁶ and what he did to Dathan and Abiram, the sons of Eliab the Reubenite, when in the middle of the whole Israelite camp the earth opened its mouth and swallowed them, their households, their tents, and every living thing with them. ⁷ Your own eyes have seen every great work the LORD has done."

Deuteronomy 11:1-7 (CSB)

2. This guardrail brings us CLOSER to GOD.

The elder: To my dear friend Gaius, whom I love in the truth. ² Dear friend, I pray that you are prospering in every way and are in good health, just as your whole life is going well. ³ For I was very glad when fellow believers came and testified to your fidelity to the truth—how you are walking in truth. ⁴ I have no greater joy than this: to hear that my children are walking in truth.

3 John 1-4 (CSB)

"This is the command—the statutes and ordinances—the LORD your God has commanded me to teach you, so that you may follow them in the land you are about to enter and possess. ² Do this so that you may fear the LORD your God all the days of your life by keeping all his statutes and commands I am giving you, your son, and your grandson, and so that you may have a long life. ³ Listen, Israel, and be careful to follow them, so that you may prosper and multiply greatly, because the LORD, the God of your

ancestors, has promised you a land flowing with milk and honey. ⁴ "Listen, Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one. ⁵ Love the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your strength. ⁶ These words that I am giving you today are to be in your heart. ⁷ Repeat them to your children. Talk about them when you sit in your house and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up. ⁸ Bind them as a sign on your hand and let them be a symbol on your forehead. ⁹ Write them on the doorposts of your house and on your city gates."

Deuteronomy 6:1-9 (CSB)

3. The GOSPEL fills in the GAP between these guardrails.

Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse. ¹⁵ Rejoice with those who rejoice; weep with those who weep. ¹⁶ Live in harmony with one another. Do not be proud; instead, associate with the humble. Do not be wise in your own estimation. ¹⁷ Do not repay anyone evil for evil. Give careful thought to do what is honorable in everyone's eyes. ¹⁸ If possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone. ¹⁹ Friends, do not avenge yourselves; instead, leave room for God's wrath, because it is written, Vengeance belongs to me; I will repay, says the Lord. ²⁰ But if your enemy is hungry, feed him. If he is thirsty, give him something to drink. For in so doing you will be heaping fiery coals on his head. ²¹ Do not be conquered by evil, but conquer evil with good.

Romans 12:14-21 (CSB)