

## *Study Guide*

**Study Scripture:** Ephesians 6.2-3 (NKJV)

**Honor Your Mother**

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The Scriptures teach about the creation of a woman:

1. \_\_\_\_\_ worth – God created woman in his **image**, equal in dignity, value, and reflection like man (egalitarian): Genesis 1.28
2. \_\_\_\_\_ identity – God created woman with a distinct physical identity (female/biology), with her own capacity to reason, feel, and desire, with a unique purpose in relationship with God. Genesis 1.28
3. \_\_\_\_\_ role – God made woman to come alongside the man to become his helper (wife) in a marital covenant to establish the family (complementarian). Genesis 2.18-22

### **Questions remain about the role of women:**

1. Does a single woman getting married have to forsake her career to become a wife and mother?
2. Can a wife pursue a professional career while fulfilling parental responsibilities?
3. Is it possible to balance being a wife, mother, and a professional career within a biblical framework?

### **Viewpoints;** Traditional, Feminist, and Modern views:

1. **Traditional** view: Women were created primarily for motherhood and family life. The belief that children benefit most when mothers focus on home and caregiving.
2. **Feminist** view: Woman's role is not only domestic but should have the same opportunity as men to pursue careers, leadership, education, and independence. Economic independence is important for dignity and security. Feminist usually undervalues marriage and motherhood and creates pressure for women to delay or avoid having children.
3. **Modern** view: Reject the idea that all women must fit one role. Instead, the culture increasingly emphasizes:
  - Personal choice
  - Work-life balance
  - Shared parenting between women and men

## Scripture Study: Ephesians 6.2-3 - Honor Your Mother

1. \_\_\_\_\_: v.2. **Honor** your father and mother
  - Respect their guidance and wisdom
  - Be grateful for their sacrifice
  - Care for them in old age (1 Timothy 5.8)
2. \_\_\_\_\_: v.2b. the **first** commandment with **promise**: God attaches a blessing to obeying the command.
3. \_\_\_\_\_: v.3. it may be **well with you**, and you **live long** on the earth. A life marked by blessings, order, and peace.

### Why honor your mother:

1. **God's command**: your mother reflects God's care because she participated in the gift of life and made significant sacrifices to bring you into this world.
2. **God's design**: your mother is part of God's plan for your life, formation and guidance (family is the first place of learning and nurturing). Honoring her acknowledges that debt of care and role she played in shaping you.
3. **God's blessing**: your mother is connected to blessings, stability, and long life. (Ephesians 6.3)
4. **God's care**: honoring your mother includes caring for her as she aged. The command helped ensure that vulnerable family members weren't abandoned.

### How to live as an honorable mother:

1. Fear God – you reverence God and walk in His ways. Proverbs 31.30
2. Lead with love before rules – have a firm hand with a soft heart
3. Honor your parents and others – set the example
4. Guide, not control – you're shaping a person, not a project
5. Confess mistakes – show them your humility
6. Presence over perfection – unconditional love
7. Leave a legacy, not just memories

### Ways to honor your mother:

1. Express gratitude – say, 'Thank you!' without cause
2. Stay connected – regular calls, visits, or text messages
3. Speak with respect – tone matters
4. Honor her with your life – shows that you got it
5. Forgive her – extend God's grace for reconciliation always
6. Prosper her – return a harvest into her life
7. Celebrate her - systematically and randomly