

## 5<sup>th</sup> Commandment:

*Treat your father and mother with honour obedience, respect and courtesy.*

Most of us live with carers, and I believe this also applies to them, and also to those we think are important

So ..... *Treat your carers (of all sorts – foster, residential key workers - ) with honour, obedience, respect and courtesy.*

Perhaps even (really) close friends who have done a lot for you.

This is to do with families, and the sort of groups that you live in. They are not families, but I think that many of the things to do with families are for you as well. Offering a commitment to the “family” or group.

## Parents / carers

So who are your carers?

**Carers:** Those that look after you, and those that help like  
cooks,  
carer,  
gardeners,  
cleaners,  
teachers,  
bus driver etc.

**Honour:** make them feel important – give them value and respect. They are not just cleaners, cooks, carers etc! Not rejecting them as useless. Obeying them when it is right to do so.

**Obedience:** Do what they ask you without grumbling!

**Respect:** Treat well – with consideration

**Courtesy:** Polite and kind.

**Accept them** - They will not always be right and they will not always be perfect. Accept them and honour them despite their faults and failings

**Thank them, Appreciate them** – Being a parent is hard! Appreciate them for what they have done for us. Say thank you, buy small presents, send cards / emails / txt

**Affirm them** – Encourage them. Praise them. Involve them and respect them – even if they are old!

**Do not abandon them** – Keep in touch, help where you can

**Our families:**

Some have been very sad – that is not God's fault.  
Some have been happy  
Some may not have got parents that they know about

God wants to help families.  
God is everything a Father should be.

Good  
Faithful  
True  
Trustworthy  
Very Close  
Most caring

Father to the fatherless – if you have had a bad mum or dad or none at all.

Don't let bad parents put you off God the Father.

God can help you in all this – by the Holy Spirit.

**Learn to learn** - get better at it!

**Learn to communicate** – talk to each other – friendly like! Have time for each other. Try to be honest about how you feel. Accept each other for who they are and what they are and pray for them to be more like Jesus!

**Learn to forgive** – It can be very hard sometimes. Forgive unconditionally – even harder sometimes. Forgetting is not forgiving! Forgiveness is often a hard decision and is the start to healing. Forgive don't bury it! No quick fix it!

Start NOW!!