**R960 (437) Rumination for June 18, 2023** (R437 June 16, 2013 - Father’s Day Rumination)

The **T**heme:  **Our Father**[berita-bethel-ung.com](http://www.berita-bethel-ung.com)

The **T**ext: *Children, obey your parents… Honour thy father and mother…* Eph. 6:1, 2

The **T**hots:

Today is Father’s Day. Meditate on how the Son…

1. ‘**Onoured God the Father in Heaven.**
2. The **S**on **S**ought His Father’s Honour. Jn. 17:1

*Father, the hour is come; glorify Thy Son, that Thy Son also may glorify Thee.*

1. Though the **S**on is of the **S**ame **S**tatus as the Father…
2. *I and My Father are one.* Jn. 10:30
3. *Christ Jesus, being in very nature God…equality with God …* Phil. 2:5b, 6, NIV
4. *The Jews sought…to kill Him, because He…said…God was His Father,*

*making Himself equal with God.* Jn. 5:18

1. …The **S**on **S**till was, is and will **S**ubject Himself to the Father. See #B1a.ii below
2. Then: *My Father, if this cup may not pass away from Me, except I drink it, Thy will be done.* Mt. 26:42
3. Now*: the Head of Christ is God.* I Cor. 11:3
4. At the end: *Then shall the Son also Himself be subject unto Him that put all things under Him,*

*that God may be all in all.* I Cor. 15:28

1. The **S**on taught His **S**tudents (disciples) to Honour the Father. Mt. 6:9

*After this manner therefore pray ye: Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be Thy name.*

1. Note His Inclu**sive** **T**ext – ***our*** *Father*, i.e. only those who could claim God as their Father.
2. Note His Exclu**sive** **T**erm – *pray* ***ye***, i.e. only those He claimed to be His own.
3. Note their Expres**sive** **T**ribute – to pray, *Hallowed be Thy Name*.
4. **Obeyed God the Father in Heaven -** The Example of Jesus, the Son.
5. Jesus **O**beyed His Heavenly Father:
6. Jesus, the Son, though equal with the Father, **O**beyed Him. Phil. 2:6-8, NIV
7. He was *in very nature* ***G****od…*
8. He *did not consider equality with God something to be* ***G****rasped.*
9. *Then said I, Lo, I come…to do Thy will, O* ***G****od.* Heb. 10:7
10. Then Jesus, as Man (though God’s Son) had to learn **O**bedience. Heb. 5:8

* *Though He were a Son, yet learned He obedience by the things which He* ***S****uffered.*
* He *made Himself nothing, taking the very nature of a* ***S****ervant, being made in human likeness.*

*And being found in fashion as a man, He humbled Himself, and became obedient…* Phil. 2:7, 8

1. Jesus was **O**bedient unto death.
2. *O My Father, if this cup may not pass away from Me, except I drink it, Thy will be done*. Mt. 26:42
3. *Being found in appearance as a man,* ***H****e…became obedient to death, even death on a cross*! Phil. 2:8
4. *Father, into Thy hands I commend My spirit: and having said thus, He gave up the ghost*. Lk. 23:46
5. **The Obligation of the Father on Earth**
6. In the Old Covenant fathers were to teach their children to …
7. Observe the Feast of the Passover. Exo. 12:14, 42

*This day shall be unto you for a memorial; and ye shall keep it a feast to the LORD*

*throughout your generations; ye shall keep it a feast by an ordinance for ever.*

1. Observe the Feast of Unleavened Bread. Exo. 12:17

*Ye shall observe the feast of unleavened bread; for in this selfsame day have I brought your armies out of the land of Egypt: therefore shall ye observe this day in your generations by an ordinance for ever.*

1. In the New Covenant “*fathers*” (I Jn. 2:13, 14) are to teach their “*children*” (I Jn. 2:12, 13) to …

**O**bserve the two **O**rdinances given to the Church:

1. The Lord’s Baptism: Mt. 28:19

*Go… teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost*:

1. The Lord’s Supper: I Cor. 11:26

*For as often as ye eat this bread, and drink this cup, ye do show the Lord's death till He come.*

On this Lord’s Day (and Father’s Day) may all **C**hildren **C**elebrate the Day **C**orrectly -

To ‘**O**nour and **O**bey their Father in Heaven and their Fathers on Earth,

And may all fathers **O**bserve their **O**bligations to their **C**hildren in the Church Family

To ensure they **O**bserve the Lord’s Baptism and the Lord’s Supper.

***Our Father in Heaven, Hallowed be Thy Name.***

*Honor and glory, thanksgiving and praise, Maker of all things, to Thee we praise;  
God the Almighty, the Father, the Lord; God by the angels obeyed and adored.*

*Thou art the Father of Heaven and earth; Worlds uncreated to Thee owe their birth;  
All the creation, Thy voice when it heard, Started to life and to light at Thy Word.*

From the La­tin *Grad­ual*.

**REFELECTIONS FOR THE WEEK R960**

1. On this Father’s Day, we are reminded of the Role the father plays in our life

and what our Responsibilities towards our father are.

In both the Old and New Covenants God gave precise commands to all children to…

“*Honour thy father and thy mother*” (Exo. 20:12; Deut. 5:16a; Eph. 6:2)

What does it mean to Honour your father?

Is it still relevant in today’s generation where the father is regarded as a buddy

and an equal to be addressed by name in certain modern family circles?

* God called Abraham “Friend”: Jas. 2:23

*Abraham believed God… and he was called the* ***friend*** *of God.*

* Jesus called His disciples “Friends”: Jn. 15:15

*Henceforth I…have called you* ***friends****; for all things that I have heard of My Father*

*I have made known unto you.*

Can Abraham ever address God as *Friend* or the Lord’s disciples, Him as *Friend*?

Compare: *Ye call me* ***Master and Lord****: and ye say well; for so I am.* Jn. 13:13

Honour is *timao* in Greek. According to Strong, the word means to prize, i.e. fix a valuation upon; by impl. to revere: -- honour, value. It is derived from a word meaning valuable, i.e. (obj.) costly, or (subj.) honoured, esteemed, or (fig.) beloved: --dear, honourable…precious…

Therefore, honouring father and mother is to have **R**espect for them

…in their **R**elationship with you (that they are your parents),

…in their **R**ank over you (that they are older, wiser and more experienced than you)

…and in their **R**egard for you (that they love you and are concerned for your welfare.)

This **R**espect is to be **R**eciprocated in your attitude, words, and acts towards them,

not only because of what they have done for you but also for who they are.

This implies that when children do not agree with their parents they still show

that esteem towards them in their action, attitude, and words they use with them.

Would you agree with such an understanding of *Honour thy father and mother*

as a son (or a daughter) yourself (whatever your age) towards your parents,

and as a father (or a mother) also teach such to your children towards you?

If you can demonstrate this in life towards your parents or receive such from your children,

would you not consider this as the best present you can give your parents

or receive from your children this Father’s Day? **REFLECT.**

**2**. *Children, obey your parents in the Lord:* *for this is right*. (Eph. 6:1)

*Obey* is *hupakouo* = to hear under (as a subordinate), i.e. to listen attentively; by impl. to heed or conform to a command or authority: --hearken, be obedient to, obey. [Strong]

“*Obey*” is another word which is not well-received today. It bespeaks a person of higher status throwing his rank around to his subordinates. Fathers should not treat their children that way. They should be friends and pals of their children treating them as “equal.”

In the Postbag of The Star paper of 11 June, 2013 a parent wrote that when he analysed a questionnaire, he gave to some 50 boys and girls at a sub-urban secondary school to fill in, he found some disturbing answers, as follows:

*More than 60% of the students felt that their parents exercised too much control over them;*

*Similarly, they also felt the teachers controlled them too much.*

*They would listen to their friends more than their parents*.

The writer believed parents lacked parental skills and tended to apply too much pressure on their teenage children who were going through a particularly turbulent stage in life. He opined that they needed to understand and nurture them to face the challenging life. The children needed to be guided and brought to the straight path.

He went further to ask: *What is society at large doing about teenage issues? What are the religious, political and social bodies doing to arrest the issues faced by our teenagers? What are the schools doing about the problematic teenagers?*

Are the precepts: *Children, obey your parents in the Lord: for this is right.*

*Honour thy father and mother; which is the first commandment with promise;*

relevant today? Would you expect this of your children this Father’s Day? **REFLECT**

***Points to Ponder****:*

*For what son is not disciplined by his father?* (Heb. 12:7b) Today, is it possible that some may ask the question: *For what father is not disciplined by his son?*