

Moments of Inspiration

Honouring Our Parents by Jacqueline J. Austin

If someone curses their father or mother, their lamp will be snuffed out in pitch darkness. Proverbs 20:20

Disrespect has become rampant in our societies and children seem to care less for their parents. In fact, many social agencies are concerned about the physical, psychological, emotional and financial abuse of the elderly. Often overwhelmed by the pressures of life, children abandon their caring responsibilities and, in frustration, some of them curse and disrespect their fathers and mothers. There is never an excuse for cursing or disrespecting our parents, no matter how difficult the circumstances may be. The fifth commandment admonishes us to "Honour thy father and thy mother: that thy days may be long upon the land which the LORD thy God giveth thee". Taken further, in Ephesians 6:1 children are cautioned to "Honor your father and mother" (which is the first commandment with a promise). The Scriptures explicitly state that failure to be honorable in our interactions and care for our parents could land us in darkness. As

believers we should never be counted among those who forget the sacrifices made by our parents and elders for our own advancement.

Prayer:

Father, forgive us for the negative words uttered against our mothers and fathers. We repent and ask you not to cast us into obscure darkness. Help us to honour our fathers and mothers. Despite the negative experiences we may have had in our childhood help us to love them unconditionally. Amen.