



FIND
HOPE
HERE

SEDGEFIELD
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Let's Stay Connected!



Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as **members of one body** you were called to peace. And be thankful.

Let the message of Christ dwell among you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom through psalms, hymns, and songs from the Spirit, singing to God with gratitude in your hearts.

And, what you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

Colossians 3:15-17 (NIV)

Through the Eyes of Jesus - Commandment #5

Nestled among God's 10 most famous instructions (the 10 Commandments) is this: "Honor your father and your mother." Really? Honoring our parents is important, but does it really deserve the same status as "Put God first" or "Do not murder" or "Do not commit adultery"? There are lots of great parents in the world. Hopefully, you can relate to that. Sadly, all parents are not great. They've caused pain and hurt in their families. Is the 5th Commandment about those parents, too? It might just be a question of honor and what "honor" really looks like.



Join us in
Worship

Sunday, May 24, 2020

Message:

*Through the Eyes of Jesus:
A Question of Honor*

Exodus 20:1, 12; Mark 7:9-13

As Members of One Body: We Study



If you are (or were) fortunate enough to have good parents, what made them good parents?

If your relationship with your parents is (or was) less than ideal, what good can you find in them? (It's easy to find something good from them. That would be you!)

What do you think "honor" means in the context of the 5th Commandment?

Are there ever exceptions to the 5th Commandment? If not, why not? If so, describe a situation in which it would be OK for someone not to honor their father and mother.

Read Mark 7:9-13 very carefully. You'll encounter the term "Corban" which means "that which has been set aside for God." With this understanding, explain what is going on in this passage. What is Jesus' teaching point?

What can you do this week to honor your parents or their memory?

Daily Prayer: Lord Jesus, I give you my allegiance above all others, even my family. But I also ask you to help me be the most loving, caring family member I can possibly be. Amen.

A Covenant Prayer in the Wesleyan Tradition

*I am no longer my own but yours.
Put me to what you will,
rank me with whom you will.
Put me to doing, put me to suffering.
Let me be employed for you
or laid aside for you,
exalted for you or brought low for you.
Let me be full, let me be empty.
Let me have all things, let me have nothing.
I freely and wholeheartedly yield all things
to your pleasure and disposal.
And now, glorious and blessed God,
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,
you are mine and I am yours.
So be it.
And the covenant now made on earth,
let it be ratified in heaven.
Amen.*



Prayer Requests



Jimmie Foster
Jaime Garcia
Ruby Gardiner
Tommy Reep
Sue Van Vynckt

If you have a request or concern
that you would like added to our
prayer list, please send the
request to:

prayerrequest@sedgefieldchurch.org



Bless our gifts, O Lord of all, that we might worship you with great joy and serve your people with great love. In Christ's name, Amen.

Ways to Give Your Offerings:



Online Through

sedgefieldchurch.org

Make a credit card or electronic contribution.



Bank Draft

Set up automatic contributions through your bank's Online Bill Pay.



Church

Mail your check to:

Sedgefield UMC
2830 Dorchester Pl
Charlotte, NC
28209



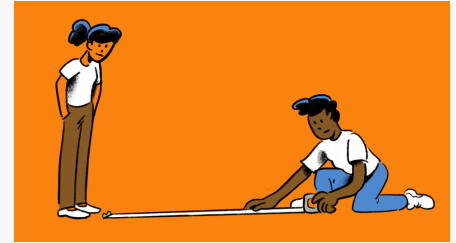
Online Through

wnccumc.org

Make a credit card or electronic contribution.

People Adapt to Loss of Physical Contact During Pandemic*

On March 18, an unnamed human resources specialist tweeted: "I've been super teary today. I live alone and the thought of not getting a hug from anyone for MONTHS is desperate." She hasn't touched or been touched by anyone in the two months since.



Most of us have a biological need to touch and be touched. In the 1950s, Harry Harlow conducted an experiment with baby monkeys, who were taken from their mothers and allowed to choose between surrogates made of wires or terry cloth. The infants consistently preferred the comforting, soft mother substitute they could hug, regardless of which "mother" had food.

Before the outbreak of the coronavirus, some sectors of contemporary culture (businesses and education, for example) were already moving toward more restrictive norms with regard to human touch, in part to protect institutions and individuals against litigation.

While there are obvious dangers of contagion, losing the warmth of human touch is also risky. Without friendly physical contact, we may experience the weakening of our immune systems, which would have the effect of making us potentially more susceptible to disease. In addition, some social scientists say the loss of human touch would likely lead to greater incidence of depression, anxiety, loneliness, stress, sleep disorders, suicide, aggression and violence.

Human touch is frequently associated with healing in the Bible. When Jesus found Peter's mother-in-law sick in bed, he touched her hand, and the fever left her (Matthew 8:14-15). Another time, Jesus touched the eyes of two blind men and restored their sight (Matthew 20:29-34). Once when Jesus was teaching in a synagogue, he laid hands on a woman who had been crippled for 18 years, and "immediately she stood up straight and began praising God" (Luke 13:10-13).

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Confronting the News with Scripture and Hope:

People were bringing little children to [Jesus] in order that he might touch them; and the disciples spoke sternly to them. But when Jesus saw this, he was indignant and said to them, "Let the little children come to me; do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of God belongs. Truly I tell you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God as a little child will never enter it." And he took them up in his arms, laid his hands on them, and blessed them.

Mark 10:13-16 (NRSV)

To Think About:

While it is possible that some of the people who brought little children to Jesus hoped he might heal them with a touch, as he cured so many others, this passage does not tell us whether any of the children were sick or injured. It is just as likely that people brought the children to Jesus just to receive a blessing,

The disciples seem to labor under the misconception that Jesus couldn't be bothered with insignificant infants and troublesome toddlers. They rebuke those who brought the children, but Jesus was incensed. It was unjust to bar little children from the presence of the king that God had sent into the world, when the kingdom of God belonged to them. The psalmist describes the joy of finding a home in the house of the Lord, who welcomes even the humblest sparrow and swallow to make their nests there. Just to be in the vicinity of God brought the psalmist joy.

Questions:

- What do you think made Jesus such an attractive person that people wanted to bring little children to him to be touched?
- What do you think children enjoyed about Jesus?
- What effect does a lack of human touch have on you?

Responding to the News:

Watch the Gaither Vocal Band sing [He Touched Me \(Video 4:45\)](#), and reflect on how Jesus has touched your life and made you whole. Thank God for all he has done for you!

* "People Adapt to Physical Loss During Pandemic", May 17, 2020, [thewiredword.com](#)

As Members of One Body...We Connect



Wouldn't it be nice if we could see each other, share what we are doing and how we are doing? Share prayer concerns and praises. Well, we can and we do. On Zoom each Wednesday at 1:00 you can join online or call in. We talk, and laugh and pray. And we just spend time together. It is very informal. So if you are missing each other, join us on Zoom. I know you will enjoy sharing fellowship with those you miss.

~Tom Little



► **Let's Connect!** ◀

Wednesday, May 27

1:00 p.m.



Meeting ID: 954 3442 7851

As Members of One Body...We Remember

The altar flowers on Sunday, May 24, will be given to honor veterans and current members of our armed services.



Memorial Day is perhaps our most somber of all holidays. On this holiday weekend, may our prayer be that we never glorify the conflicts which tear us apart. Rather, let us worship our God, *the God of all nations and all peoples*. May we give glory to the One who calls us to use our freedoms responsibly and peaceably.

Sedgefield UMC member Charles Lineberger, a 2019 graduate of Harding University High School, is currently stationed at Fort Drum, New York. Charles expects to be deployed overseas in November.

You may contact Charles by text message at 980-298-2094 or by emailing him at linebergercharles@gmail.com.



If you would like to honor or remember a loved one by donating altar flowers, please contact the **church office** or call Clara Hedberg at 704-375-9588. The cost of the flowers is \$40.





The Western North Carolina Conference has extended the suspension of in-person, indoor worship through June 30. For more information and to view responses to frequently asked questions regarding Phase 2 reopening, visit www.wnccumc.org.



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