

LESSON 15: RESPECT FOR AUTHORITY

Memory work

104.Q. What does God require in the fifth commandment?

A. *That I show all honour, love, and faithfulness*

to my father and mother

and to all those in authority over me,

submit myself with due obedience

to their good instruction and discipline,

and also have patience with their weaknesses and shortcomings,

since it is God's will to govern us by their hand.

Homework

Jack and Peter are good friends. They often do things together. One Saturday evening they go out. It's past midnight when they get home. Jack gets a thorough telling off. "You know we want you to be home by midnight. You're grounded." At Peter's place it's a very different story. "Had a good evening? Why are you home so early? O, of course, it's Jack's parents. They're far too strict. You should do what you want. If something isn't good for you, you'll find out sooner or later. As long as you're in church tomorrow morning, and awake."

1.(1) What do you think is proper about the responses of Jack's parents and Peter's parents? _____

2.(1) What do you find improper about their responses? _____

The Catechism answer speaks of "due obedience" and "patience with weaknesses and shortcomings".

3.(1) What would be the proper response of Jack to his parents? _____

4.(1) What would be the proper response of Peter to his parents? _____

5.(1) How do you feel about a midnight curfew on Saturday night? _____

6.(4) Using the terms "official authority", "personal authority" and "sin", explain why the relationship between parents and children is not optimal (the best it can be). Discuss with your parents!

More room on the other side of this page to write out your answer

