

# CONFESSING OUR FAITH

## westminster larger catechism

**Q 122. What is the sum of the six commandments which contain our duty to man?**

**A** The sum of the six commandments which contain our duty to man is, to love our neighbor as ourselves,<sup>1</sup> and to do to others what we would have them to do to us.<sup>2</sup>

1. Matt. 22:39. 2. Matt. 7:12.

**Q 123. Which is the fifth commandment?**

**A** The fifth commandment is, *Honour thy father and thy mother: that thy days may be long upon the land which the LORD thy God giveth thee.*<sup>1</sup>

1. Ex. 20:12; Deut. 5:16.

**Q 124. Who are meant by *father* and *mother* in the fifth commandment?**

**A** By *father* and *mother*, in the fifth commandment, are meant, not only natural parents,<sup>1</sup> but all superiors in age<sup>2</sup> and gifts;<sup>3</sup> and especially such as, by God's ordinance, are over us in place of authority, whether in family,<sup>4</sup> church,<sup>5</sup> or commonwealth.<sup>6</sup>

1. Prov. 23:22, 25; Eph. 6:1–2. 2. 1 Tim. 5:1–2. 3. Gen. 4:20–21; Gen. 45:8. 4. 2 Kings 5:13. 5. 2 Kings 2:12; Gal. 4:19; 2 Kings 13:14. 6. Isa. 49:23.

**Q 125. Why are superiors styled *father* and *mother*?**

**A** Superiors are styled *father* and *mother*, both to teach them in all duties toward their inferiors, like natural parents, to express love and tenderness to them, according to their several relations;<sup>1</sup> and to work inferiors to a greater willingness and cheerfulness in performing their duties to their superiors, as to their parents.<sup>2</sup>

1. Eph. 6:4; 2 Cor. 12:14; 1 Thess. 2:7–8, 11; Num. 11:11–12. 2. 1 Cor. 4:14–16; 2 Kings 5:13.

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