

Zoe

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Jewish Studies

Talmud

Honoring Your Parents

I would describe the rabbinic attitude towards honoring your parents is that you have to do whatever your parents ask and you should not make them go out of their way to do anything that is not easily done. You should also help your parents in any way possible. For example, Isi ben Yehuda says that if your father asks you to do something and you also have to perform a mitzvah you should not perform the mitzvah but instead attend to your father if the mitzvah can be performed by someone else. In conclusion, the rabbis think that you should drop everything and go to your father if he needs something.

I think that our culture's attitude is definitely not drop everything and go but rather we want to do anything to **not** do it. We would prefer to being hanging out with friends and on social media and things like that more than being with their family and helping their parents. We want to be our own people and not be so tied to our parents that we are at their beck and call for any and everything.

In comparison, the rabbinic attitude varies quite a bit from what our culture's attitude. In rabbinic times people had more respect for their parents and honored them and their wishes more than people do today. Since their fathers had trained the kids in rabbinic times their lives were very tied together whereas today many people are mostly school-educated and don't really learn a trade from their parents so their lives are less tied together.