

“I Love My Church”
Learning to Care for One Another!
Part 6
“The Respect!”
—Honor One Another—
“Be devoted to one another in love. Honor one another above yourselves.” Romans 12:10
Love God. Love One Another

A. Honor is...

1. Honor in the Bible means to give “esteem, value or great respect.”

“Outdo one another in showing honor.” Romans 12:10

2. Honor is commanded.

“Honor one another above yourselves.” Romans 12:10

3. Honor is an act of grace, since only God is deserving of honor!

“He alone can never die, and he lives in light so brilliant that no human can approach him. No human eye has ever seen him, nor ever will. All honor and power to him forever! Amen.”

1 Timothy 6:16

4. Honor is to be given without judgment of whether it is deserved or not!

“And the King will say, ‘I tell you the truth, when you did it to one of the least of these my brothers and sisters, you were doing it to me!’” Matthew 25:40

B. Honor is to be given to...

1. Honor God!

“And they sang in a mighty chorus: ‘Worthy is the Lamb who was slaughtered—to receive power and riches and wisdom and strength and honor and glory and blessing.’” Revelation 5:12

2. Honor authority.

“Show proper respect to everyone, love the family of believers, fear God, honor the emperor.” 1 Peter 2:17

“Everyone must submit to governing authorities. For all authority comes from God, and those in positions of authority have been placed there by God.” Romans 13:1

3. Honor pastors or church leaders.

“The elders who direct the affairs of the church well are worthy of double honor, especially those whose work is preaching and teaching.” 1 Timothy 5:17

“Dear brothers and sisters, honor those who are your leaders in the Lord’s work. They work hard among you and give you spiritual guidance. Show them great respect and wholehearted love because of their work. And live peacefully with each other.” 1 Thessalonians 5:12-13

4. Honor masters or bosses and employers.

“All slaves should show full respect for their masters so they will not bring shame on the name of God and his teaching. If the masters are believers, that is no excuse for being disrespectful. Those slaves should work all the harder because their efforts are helping other believers who are well loved.” 1 Timothy 6:1-2a

5. Honor parents.

“Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. ‘Honor your father and mother’—which is the first commandment with a promise— ‘so that it may go well with you and that you may enjoy long life on the earth.’” Ephesians 6:1-3

6. Honor elders.

“Stand up in the presence of the elderly, and show respect for the aged. Fear your God. I am the LORD.” Leviticus 19:32

7. Honor everyone!

“Honor one another above yourselves.” Romans 12:10b

C. The church must be a place of honor...

1. To honor someone communicates value and worth.
“But God showed his great love for us by sending Christ to die for us while we were still sinners.” Romans 5:8

2. To honor someone says, “I know everything about you and I love and value you!” (Just the words that God used to us!)

“And the parts we regard as less honorable are those we clothe with the greatest care. So we carefully protect those parts that should not be seen,” 1 Corinthians 12:23

3. To honor someone imitates Christ’s love and attracts others to that same love!

“So now I am giving you a new commandment: Love each other. Just as I have loved you, you should love each other.” John 13:34

4. To honor someone above ourselves, challenges all of us to keep focused on others rather than ourselves.

“Practice playing second fiddle.” Romans 12:10 The Message

D. How will you start honoring those in your lives?

1. Remind yourself that other believers, no matter how imperfect, are children of God, your Father.
2. Rejoice in the evidences of grace within their lives.
3. Remember, you were once alienated from God and cut off without hope!
4. Keep focused that “by the mercies of God” we love each other...honor each other...and even “outdo” one another in showing honor!

“Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God’s mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God—this is your true and proper worship.” Romans 12:1

- "Take delight in honoring each other." NLT
- "Give preference to one another in honor" --- NASB
- "In honor preferring one another" --- KJV
- "Give pride of place to one another in esteem" --- NEB
- "Honor one another above yourselves" -- NIV
- "Anticipate each other in showing respect" --- NAB
- "In showing honor to one another take the lead" --- NWT
- "Give your brothers and sisters more honor than you want for yourselves" --- NCV
- "....a willingness to let the other man have the credit" --- Phillips
- "In personal honors put one another to the fore" --- Williams
- "Outdo one another in showing honor." --ESV
- "Practice playing second fiddle" -- The Message
- "Be eager to show respect for one another" --- TEV
- "In honor, let each one esteem the other more highly" --- McCord
- "More than half the trouble that arises in Churches concerns rights and privileges and places and prestige. Someone has not been given his or her place; someone has been neglected or unthanked; someone has been given a more prominent place on a platform than someone else --- and there is trouble. It is not easy to give each other priority in honor. There is enough of the natural man in most of us to like to get our rights" (Barclay, p. 178).
- ".....carries the connotation of setting an example and taking the lead in honoring others. Instead of coveting and trying to grasp honors for one's self, the Christian should rather desire to exalt his fellow Christians, even taking the lead in the conveyance of such honors to them" (Coffman, p. 434).
- "If this single direction were to be obeyed ... it would humble the ambition of those who, like Diotrephes, love to have the pre-eminence (III John 9), and make every man willing to occupy the place for which God has designed him" (Barnes, p. 281).
- "Instead of waiting for others to honor us, we should lead them in the manifestation of esteem and respect" (Lipscomb, p. 226).
- "In the matter of showing esteem or respect, be examples to one another" (Lard, p. 390).
- An attitude of readiness "to recognize and honor God's gifts in a brother" (Wuest, p. 214).
- "This is a hard lesson, and very few persons learn it thoroughly," for "we have no objection to the elevation of others, providing we are at the head" (Clarke, p. 140).

*"As Paul Tournier wrote in Guilt and Grace, pages 15-16, "In everyday life we are continually soaked in this unhealthy atmosphere of mutual criticism, so much so that we are not always aware of it and we find ourselves drawn unwittingly into an implacable vicious circle: every reproach evokes a feeling of guilt in the critic as much as in the one criticized, and each one gains relief from his guilt in any way he can, by criticizing other people and in self-justification."
 "This is the spirit of worldliness. We gospel-centered people are under the command of God to create alternative cultures of honor, called churches, where people are lifted up, their accomplishments celebrated, their strengths admired, their weaknesses forgiven. This new relational environment has high standards, in keeping with the glory of the gospel."*