

Wisdom Unlocked: The Ways of God Podcast Episode Notes

Season 1 Episode 4 Honoring One Another

In our world today, honoring someone is usually due to someone's performance or achievement – a sports championship or a new record, a milestone such as a 50th wedding anniversary, a new job or even 25 years at the same company. That's not wrong but a Biblical value system has other measures of honor including character, because we are made in God's image and reflect His character, and our intrinsic value because Jesus sacrificed His life for us. So why is dishonor so pervasive in our culture?

God's Kingdom is built on the principle of honoring one another. The Scriptures have much to say about topics such as faithfulness (78 times), trust (87 times), money (112 times) and on obedience (161 times). But did you know the Bible talks as much about honor as it does about obedience? It speaks of honoring God (Proverbs 3:9), parents (Exodus 20:12), elders/leaders (1 Timothy 5:17), employers (1 Timothy 6:1), the King (1 Peter 2:17), spouses (Ephesians 5:33; 1 Peter 3:7), marriage (Hebrews 13:4), widows and the elderly (1 Timothy 5:3; Leviticus 19:2)

From a Biblical perspective, honor is defined as the recognition of a person's worth or value and the attitude that is appropriate to that recognition. There are three measures of honor:

- 1) Value due to performance. Romans 13:7 speaks of giving "honor to whom honor is due. According to Jeremiah 17:10, God is concerned about the results we achieve and gives "to each man according to the results of his deeds."
- 2) Honoring is due to character. We were created in God's image – to reflect in our own being the moral and spiritual beauty of God's character. Spiritual leaders are chosen based on character (1 Timothy 3:2-13). We can honor people for their love, kindness, steadiness, faithfulness, etc.
- 3) We honor people because of their intrinsic value. The cross of Jesus is a constant reminder that He valued us enough to shed His blood that we might be redeemed! Because our intrinsic value is given to us by God, it is not something that is earned or achieved. It is essential that we make the distinction between who the person is and what they do. What someone does may be totally unacceptable in God's eyes and ours, but the person is always totally acceptable because of the value of the blood of Jesus that has been shed for them.

Ways of Expressing Honor Towards One Another

- 1) Acceptance – is more than tolerating someone. A person who receives genuine acceptance in an active, positive way feels respected and valued
- 2) Affirmation – reinforces a person's self-worth by drawing attention to their gifts, strengths and achievements
- 3) Appreciation – expresses the genuine pleasure of being in that person's company and delights in their successes
- 4) Approval – expresses my agreement with and credits someone with the way they behave and the things they do
- 5) Admiration – goes beyond approval as it not only agrees with someone but praises and looks up to the person and their character and achievements
- 6) Acknowledgement – gives people recognition, praise or commendation publicly or before other people, for who they are or for what they have done

For more on honor, check out Chapter 7 in *A Discipleship Journey*, Lionshare's primary tool for discipleship available [here](#).