LIVE LOVE: HONOR

Honor others because they bear the image of God.

BIG IDEA

We honor God by honoring people, regardless of whether they deserve it.

MESSAGE SUMMARY

Honor is the biblical antidote to rudeness. Every person bears God's image and has value, regardless of status or behavior. We are called to honor everyone, those in authority, our elders, our families and, above all, God. Honor does not require agreement or blind obedience. As followers of Jesus, we can offer respect first rather than mirror the conduct of others.

READ TOGETHER

Romans 12:10 — Honor one another.

1 Peter 2:17 — Honor everyone.

Genesis 9:6 — God's image.

ICEBREAKER - CHOOSE ONE

Option 1: When has someone shown you unexpected respect or kindness?

Option 2: What everyday situation makes it difficult to respond graciously?

TALK IT THROUGH

1. What does the drive-through story reveal about our desire to repay rudeness with rudeness?
   If needed: Our response need not be determined by someone else's behavior.
2. Read Romans 12:10 and 1 Peter 2:17. How is biblical honor different from respect based on achievement or status?
   If needed: Honor is offered because of human dignity, not earned by performance.
3. How does remembering that every person bears God's image change the way we see someone we dislike?
   If needed: Distinguish the person's worth from their actions.
4. How can we honor someone in authority while disagreeing with a decision or maintaining appropriate boundaries?
   If needed: Pray for them, speak respectfully and remain faithful to God.
5. What might honoring elders and family members look like in ordinary life?
   If needed: Listen attentively, express gratitude and use a respectful tone.
6. Which part of H.O.N.O.R. challenges you most? How could you give God your first and best this week?
   If needed: Consider home, everyone, overlooked people, going first and God's image.

THIS WEEK'S CHALLENGE

Identify one person you can honor this week. Choose one concrete action: pray for them by name, express appreciation, listen without distraction or offer kindness first. Be ready to share what happened.

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Create space for honest reflection and one intentional act of honor.

A SIMPLE 60-MINUTE RHYTHM

1 Connect
10 MIN

Welcome and choose an icebreaker.

2 Read
10 MIN

Read the key passages aloud.

3 Discuss
30 MIN

Choose 3-4 questions; do not rush.

4 Respond
10 MIN

Name a next step and pray.

LEAD THE CONVERSATION

1. Begin with the temptation to retaliate. Invite reflection rather than blame.

2. Ground honor in God's image, not in agreement, status or deserving behavior.

3. Clarify that honor never requires tolerating abuse or surrendering safe boundaries.

4. Keep political examples focused on conduct and prayer, not partisan debate.

5. Protect confidentiality; invite one specific act of honor without pressuring disclosure.

HELPFUL FOLLOW-UPS

What makes it hardest to offer honor first?

How does your tone communicate respect?

Who tends to be overlooked in your daily life?

How can you honor God with your first and best?

What would respectful disagreement look like?

How can the group support you or pray?

KEEP THE MAIN THING CLEAR

H — Home is where honor begins. Model respect in words and actions.

O — Others means everyone. Each person bears God's image.

N — Notice who gets overlooked. Give attention to those others ignore.

O — Offer honor first. Do not wait for someone to earn it.

R — Remember whose image they bear. Honor God by honoring people.

CLOSING PRAYER

Lord, thank You for creating each person in Your image and for the mercy You have shown us through Jesus. Help us respond with grace when others are rude. Teach us to honor our families, elders, leaders and those who are overlooked. Give us wisdom to uphold truth with kindness and courage to offer honor first. May our words and actions bring glory to You. Amen.

BEFORE GROUP

- Read Romans 12:10; 1 Peter 2:17; Genesis 9:6.

- Choose 3-4 questions.

- Prepare an example of offering honor.

- Leave time for a specific next step.

- Consider who may need follow-up.