

Introduction: The Invisible Battle with Authority

I. The Meaning of Honor: Giving Weight to Others

1. Taking Words Seriously: In practice, honoring authority means we do not treat their counsel or boundaries as disposable. We take them seriously.
2. The Heart of Submission: It is a refusal to dismiss the people God has placed over us, even when we disagree with them.

II. The First School of Authority

1. Why God started with parents instead of kings, governors, or church leaders is because we all learn best as children.
2. Because the home is the first school of authority.

III. The Reality of Imperfection: When Authority Fails

Some had parents who were distant, harsh, or completely absent. Some of you work under bosses who are unfair. How to honor someone whose actions make them feel completely dishonorable:

1. Distinguish Between Person and Position: You can honor the office even when you cannot applaud the person.
2. Refuse Contempt: Honoring a flawed leader means you refuse to weaponize their failures, gossip about their flaws, or treat them with bitter disdain.
3. Establish Holy Boundaries: Honor does not mean enabling abuse or participating in sin. If an earthly authority commands you to disobey God, you must obey God rather than man. But even in your refusal, your posture should remain respectful, not vengeful.

IV. Grace for the Struggle: Looking to Christ

1. If you try to live out this commandment purely by willpower, you will fail. You will become bitter, or you will become a hypocrite. Where do we find the strength to honor those who have failed us?
2. We have to look to Jesus Christ.

Conclusion: The Ultimate Authority

1. When you realize that God is the ultimate authority, and that He is perfectly loving, perfectly just, and completely for you, your relationship with earthly authority changes.

"A son honors his father, and a servant his master. If then I am a father, where is my honor? And if I am a master, where is my fear? says the Lord of hosts..." — Malachi 1:6



August 2, 2026

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

1100 CALVIN ROAD // ROCHELLE, IL 61068

PHONE: 815-562-7053 WEB: PLACEFORGRACE.COM

WELCOME

August 2, 2026 - 9:00am

Welcome and Announcements - Karen Hauck

Time of Preparation for Worship

Call to Worship - Karen Hauck

Leader: O God, the sea of your mercy rolls over us, like the waves of the ocean.

All: Make us children of quiet waters and heirs of peace.

Leader: Water us with full streams from the riches of your grace and from the springs of your loving kindness.

All: Kindle in us the fire of your love and justice.

Leader: Strengthen our weakness by your power and bind us close to you and to each other and to all creation, as we worship together now. Amen.

Song: Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing

Prayer of Confession and Assurance of Pardon

O God, you are our beginning, our foundation, and our future. We confess that we often complain before seeking understanding. We order our view of the universe, and we define justice according to our own needs. May we humbly seek the divine wisdom of your creation. May we work for a justice that includes all people in the present day and for future generations. May we care for your creation now and forever. Amen.

Special Request - PASTOR MARK

Song: Good and Gracious King (CityAlight)

Scripture: Exodus 20:12 -Brad Chapman

Sermon: The Struggle with Authority
(The Fifth Commandment: Honoring father and mother)

Song of Preparation: I Surrender All

The Lord's Supper

The Nicene Creed

Offering and Doxology

Prayer Of Dedication

O Lord, we are in your debt. We acknowledge our hearts and souls need to receive from your Word and your touch. We give back to you out of gratitude for all you do for us. Amen.

Song: Good Good Father

Blessing

As we return home today, may we seek to present our lives as an offering to our Precious Savior Jesus. Teach others to hear God's truth through all you do and say, and to learn from you. Through Christ our Lord, go in peace. Amen.

Nicene Creed

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of the Father before all worlds; God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God; begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made. Who, for us men for our salvation, came down from heaven, and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary, and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate; He suffered and was buried; and the third day He rose again, according to the Scriptures; and ascended into heaven, and sits on the right hand of the Father; and He shall come again, with glory, to judge the quick and the dead; whose kingdom shall have no end.

I believe in the Holy Ghost, the Lord and Giver of Life; who proceeded from the Father and the Son; who with the Father and the Son together is worshipped and glorified; who spake by the prophets.

I believe one holy catholic and apostolic Church. I acknowledge one baptism for the remission of sins; and I look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

2 Corinthians 9:6–7 says: “Remember this: whoever so sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously. Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to bless you abundantly, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work.”

If you are our guest today, or if this is your first time here, unless God truly has put it in your heart to do so, do not feel obligated to give. If First Presbyterian, Rochelle, is your church home, and you’re wondering how to give, we have three different ways to deposit your tithes and offerings. They are:

- 1. You can put cash or check in the wooden box near the entrance to our worship center.
- 2. You can use the QR code on our website.
- 3. You can tithe using Venmo



venmo

If you would like to give your offering digitally, we have our Venmo and a QR to our website.



TO GIVE ON OUR WEBSITE,
SCAN THIS CODE WITH
YOUR PHONE

PRAYER LIST

We have a prayer chain that is texted to anyone who has requested to be on the list.

If you would like to be added to the text group, please let Sara know. sara@placeforgrace.com

We also LOVE Praising the Lord for what He has done through prayers. If you have a PRAISE Request, please don’t hesitate to send that along, too!!

We have printed off a few copies of Pastor John Hamilton's book of prayers. If you would like a copy, we have them in the office for \$20 (just the printing cost)

MOVING? Don't forget to give your new address to the church office

NURSING HOME/ASSISTED LIVING
RESIDENTS

Please keep our nursing home and rehab residents in your prayers. We list them here with their addresses - they would love to get a note or card!!

Franklin Grove Healthcare,
502 N. State Street, Franklin Grove, IL 61031

Teddie Pohl
Mildred Danekas
Gary Williams
Bruce McKinney

Hawthorne Inn
2201 Flagg Road, Rochelle, IL 61068

Shirley Villa
Judy (Nelson) Messer
David Guest

Liberty Village
2203 E Flagg Road, Rochelle, IL 61068

Codelle Leonard
Nancy Detig
Jan Hann
Clyda Lamb
Doyle Curtis
Arlyn VanDyke
Joanne Mayes

Flagler Heath and Rehab Center
300 Dr. Carter Blvd.

Burnnell, FL 32110
Pearl Fromm

Brighton Gardens of St. Charles
600 Dunham Road Room 326
St. Charles, IL 60174
Bill Frederick

Did you know ... we email out a newsletter every Tuesday afternoon.

If you would like to get our weekly newsletter, please email Sara at sara@placeforgrace.com and we can get you added on the list! We do mail a hard copy out every other week to those not able to get the email version. If you would prefer to receive your newsletter that way, please let the office staff know and we can get you added to that list.

Interim Pastor- Mark Hughey
Pulpit Supply/Pastoral Care—Xav Valdivieso
Office Coordinator/DCE - Sara Slattengren
Student Ministry Leader - Tessa Stouffer
Secretary/Receptionist - Midge Berg
Financial Secretary - Karen Hauck

Church Web Site: www.placeforgrace.com

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