

Weekend Teaching Discussion Guide

Relationships: Week Three, The Power of Honor

Teaching by Pastor Jackson

WARM-UP QUESTION

Think about someone who has made you feel valued and respected. What did they do that made you feel honored?

DISCUSS

1. Honor: The Missing Piece in Relationships

Pastor Jackson explained that building great relationships requires many things, including communication, emotional intelligence, trust, and healthy habits. However, one often overlooked piece is honor. Honor is the willingness to treat someone as valuable and precious, not common or ordinary.

In Romans 12:10, Paul challenges believers to compete with one another in showing honor. Instead of competing for recognition, success, or control, we are called to value others intentionally.

Read *Romans 12:10*.

- Why do you think honor is so important to healthy relationships, yet so easy to overlook?
- What would it look like to become more intentional about showing honor in your everyday relationships?

2. Honor Begins with God and Our Families

Pastor Jackson explained that honoring God provides the foundation for honoring others. Our worship, words, possessions, service, and even how we treat our bodies can reflect our honor for Him.

Honor is also meant to shape our homes. Scripture calls children to honor their parents and instructs parents to raise their children with love, discipline, and godly instruction. As we grow older, honoring parents changes, moving from obedience to valuing their wisdom, offering practical support, and preserving their legacy.

Read *Ephesians 6:1–4*.

- How does the way we honor God influence the way we treat people in our own homes?

- What might honoring your parents look like in your current season of life, even if your relationship with them is complicated?

3. Honor Those in Authority, Even When We Disagree

Pastor Jackson challenged us to honor those in positions of authority, including bosses, teachers, coaches, law enforcement officers, and government leaders. He acknowledged that we will not always agree with their decisions, policies, or attitudes. However, disagreement does not have to become dishonor.

Paul wrote about respecting governing authorities while living under Nero, a notoriously cruel Roman emperor. This reminds us that showing honor is not dependent on whether we agree with someone's decisions or approve of their character.

Read *Romans 13:1–7*.

- Why can it be difficult to show honor to someone whose decisions or beliefs we disagree with?
- What is the difference between respectfully disagreeing with someone and dishonoring them?

4. Honor Everyone Because Everyone Has Value

Pastor Jackson emphasized that honor is not something we reserve only for people we like, admire, or believe have earned it. Trust may need to be earned, and respect can grow through someone's actions, but honor is something we choose to give.

Philippians 2:3 calls us to humbly value others above ourselves. Every person is created in the image of God and has inherent worth. This includes people who serve our communities, people in positions of leadership, those closest to us, and even those who may never recognize our efforts.

Read *Philippians 2:3*.

- Pastor Jackson said, "Trust is earned. Respect is earned. Honor is given." How does this challenge the way you typically approach relationships?
- Who in your life might need to experience more honor from you this week?

In Mark 6, Jesus returned to His hometown, where people struggled to see Him for who He truly was. Their familiarity led them to dismiss Him, and their unbelief limited what they experienced of His ministry.

Read *Mark 6:1–6*.

- How can familiarity cause us to take people for granted, and what blessings might we miss when we fail to honor them?

CLOSING REFLECTION

Which statement best reflects where you are right now?

- I need to make honoring God the foundation of my relationships.
- I need to be more intentional about honoring my family.
- I need to learn to disagree without dishonoring those in authority.
- I need to give honor to others instead of waiting for them to earn it.
- I need to recognize the God-given value in someone I have been overlooking.

PRAYER

Close by thanking God for creating every person in His image and showing us what it means to love and value others. Ask Him to reveal areas where pride, familiarity, frustration, or disagreement have caused you to withhold honor. Pray for the humility to honor God, strengthen your family relationships, and treat those in authority and those around you with dignity. Ask God to help your group become people who intentionally give honor, creating healthier relationships and communities that reflect the heart of Jesus.