

Message Summary: Today we look at the enormous value God places on honoring people. It is an often-overlooked principle – the spiritual law of honor. Jesus speaks from Matthew 10:40-42 about 3 levels of human contact we all have in our life. Every human being falls under these 3 categories: People in authority over us, people on our level of authority (peers) and people entrusted to our authority. Honoring each of these levels of authority brings a certain reward from heaven. If you understand the vital role of this virtue, you will attract blessing upon yourself both now and for eternity.

Giving Honor & Esteem

1. Honoring God: Mark 6:1-6 – *A prophet without honor.*

2. Honoring Men: The three levels of human contact: Matthew 10:40-42

A. Honor those who are in authority over us – “prophet” v.41

- **Civil Authority:** Romans 13:1-7; 1 Peter 2:17
- **Family Authority:** Ephesians 6:2,3; Deuteronomy 27:16
- **Social Authority:** Ephesians 6:5-8; 1 Timothy 6:1
- **Church Authority:** 1 Timothy 5:17,18; Hebrews 13:7

B. Honor those who are on our level of authority (our peers) – “righteous man” v.41

C. Honor those who are entrusted to our authority – “The least” v.42

LifeGroup Questions:

BEGIN IT (5min) - Time spent in praise and prayer.

OPEN IT (10min) - What advice would you give to someone who wanted some practical wisdom on how to get along with others?

EXPLORE IT (60min) - Review Sunday's sermon outline and any notes and questions the group wants to share. Now answer the following questions:

1. God paid the most expensive ransom in the whole universe for each individual. So, what does the word “honor” mean to you?
 2. God's Word promises to reward us when we honor others. What do you think the reward could be?
 3. How does God want us to treat people who are subordinate to us?
 4. In 1 Timothy 5:17,18 what are the elders who direct the affairs of the church worthy of? Why?
 5. What can you do to improve or strengthen your relationship with honoring people in general?
- APPLY IT (15min) - How do you need to nurture healthy relationships with someone this week?