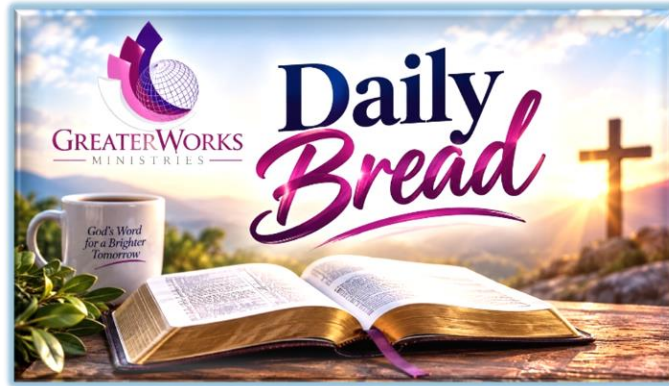




15/01/2024

Understanding Honor (Part 1)

Romans 13:7 (NIV) Give to everyone what you owe him: If you owe taxes, pay taxes; if revenue, then revenue; if respect, then respect; if honor, then honor."

You cannot make it in life without honoring certain people. It is a trap to live your life without human cover or authority over you because there are things that only happen to you with the facilitation of certain individuals that God has put in your life. You have to honor that authority above you so that they will do with gladness the things that God has placed them in your life to do.

Having a relationship with God is good but God cannot give you through a relationship what you should get through a principle/law. The doors that honor can open for you cannot be opened by prayer or any other principle of God.

In life, God will place in your way certain individuals that you only need to honor for them to speak certain words and release certain things for you. Those people may not be as perfect as you want them to be to deserve your honor but you still just need to honor them. People like parents, pastors and your bosses at work are worthy of double honor. If their behaviour is dishonorable, at least honor their offices and the ranks they carry.

Honoring them has more to do with your character than theirs. They may do dishonorable things but their office is worthy of your honor. Some parents may provoke their children to extreme levels but be careful not to dishonor them. Remember David still had to honor king Saul, even when Saul

wanted to kill David (**1 Samuel 26:8-25**). We honor some presidents not because they deserve it but because of the honourable office they are in.

Honor does not mean stupidity. It does not mean that you cannot question some things but in everything you do, never sink to the level of exhibiting dishonor. Your boss occupies an important position that has power to raise you. If you dishonor him/her, you will still be anointed but languishing at the same level. Do not criticize everything your leader does because you plant a seed that will haunt you when you become a leader tomorrow.

Most talented people could not rise to levels they were supposed to rise to because they dishonored those who could have helped them to rise. You may be older than your boss or even more educated than him/her, just honor him/her!

We go deeper tomorrow.

Hallelujah!

Pastor C&S

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16/01/2024

Understanding Honor (Part 2)

Daniel 2:48 (KJV) Then the king made Daniel a great man, and gave him many great gifts, and made him ruler over the whole province of Babylon, and chief of the governors over all the wise men of Babylon.

Examine the above scripture. It shows the capacity that authorities have in raising you. Daniel was made a great man not only by God but by the king as well. God gave Daniel capacity and ability but it was the authority that confirmed his promotion. Show humility and honor to kings. They hold the key to your next level.

So, for you to rise, God's will and man's have to be in synch otherwise God might be willing but your rising gets delayed because men are not willing. We call this power of the human will. We see in the Word of God in many instances where God's will got delayed by human will. God may release it into your spirit but man delays it because they do not like your behaviour. It would take God to do extra work to force His hand for His will to prevail against the human will.

So, what am I saying today? Honor all those in authority so that they will gladly agree to raise you in your season of favour. Make it be easy for your boss to say yes to your rising and promotion. Even in instances where they might be jealous about you. Honor cures their jealousy.

Luke 2:52 (KJV) And Jesus increased in wisdom and stature, and in favour with God and man.

Jesus had the favour of both God and man. You need man to like you in such a season like this. Where God's favour and man's favour converge, rising, promotion and shining is inevitable. Sadly, not many people carry both favours, some only carry the favour of man without the favour of God and vice-versa. It will not work that way. You need to have the favour of both God and man.

David spent years in the wilderness running away from king Saul even though he had already been anointed by God to be king until the leaders of Judah called him and made him their king (**2 Samuel 2:4**). God had anointed David to be king but he was not king until the elders of Judah approached him and made him king. So, in your rising there is always space for certain people to play a role. Never be known to despise authority!

You may have differences with certain people in positions of authority but that does not mean you dishonor them. You may strongly point out areas of difference and if that does not work, leave and go elsewhere without dishonoring the office that the person is in.

Pastors C&S

17/01/2024

Understanding Honour (Part 3)

1. Honour God.

Proverbs 3:9 (KJV) "Honour the LORD with thy substance, and with the first fruits of all thine increase:"

You cannot successfully honour God without giving Him. We do not give to God to fund Him but to show our loyalty to Him. A man's heart is attached to his wealth so by giving it to God you give part of your heart to Him. God cannot be honoured by our lips alone; substance should be attached to it. We do not give our tithes as a law; we give it as way of honouring God with what we have. Honour is more expressed when you give even when you do not have enough but choose to prioritize God, that is honour.

2. Honour Your Parents.

Ephesians 6:2 (KJV) "Honour thy father and mother; which is the first commandment with promise;"

Always honour your parents. Do not despise them and their wisdom. Let your children watch you honour their grandparents and they will also honour you. Children do not listen to what you say but see what you do. Never marry someone who despises your parents. It does not matter how bad your parents are. We do not honour their behaviour; we honour their office. Before you marry someone, show him/her to your parents and listen to what they say before you proceed. *Usaroora kana kuroorwa nemunhu anorwadzisa mai vako.

Remember, in-laws are parents too. They deserve the same honour you give to your parents. The blessing of honouring our parents is huge. The prayers that come from the heart of a happy parent goes straight to God. You may disagree with them but know where and when not to cross the line. Hallelujah!

3. Honour Your Pastor.

Hebrews 13:17 (KJV) "Obey them that have the rule over you, and submit yourselves: for they watch for your souls, as they that must give account, that they may do it with joy, and not with grief: for that is unprofitable for you."

Your pastor was given to you by God to watch over you and give account back to God about you. You cannot be clever about it. It is a purely spiritual phenomenon. When you get born again, you are given a pastor to raise you because you cannot raise yourself. Never despise those whom God has raised to cover you spiritually. If you do not feel comfortable under them move to another pastor without dishonouring them. You do not have to boot lick pastors by saying a lot of nice words and names like you want to bribe them. They are not politicians. Honour them with your behaviour and attitude.

Obedying them is another higher level of honouring them. Many times, when they call you for a meeting, they would have prayed about it for days. In some cases they would have even consulted colleagues about how to help you. So, when you sit before them listen carefully to what they say to you. They may not say it directly for fear of hurting you but in their long winding and polite presentation, there is an important message for you. Make it easy for them to make you understand it. It does not matter how clever you are. There are certain instructions that God will never say them to you directly.

Do not rush to him for prayers. His words are more powerful than the prayers. Many people who are in wrong marriages and relationships were told about it but they were too clever to listen and pastors watched them driving their lives into ditches. You are allowed to disagree with your pastors on certain things. It is not a sin. Just kindly but firmly express your objections to their views in respect. They will even respect you more.

4. Honour Your Boss.

If he/she pays you to pay your bills every month then you must honour him/her. You may not be satisfied with what he/she is giving you but still honour him/her. A salary was never meant to be enough. If you cannot honour him/her then leave him/her. You have no idea what he/she goes through in running that company to keep you employed. If anything, help him/her solve certain problems. Give more value for money to him/her and he/she will surely trust you and pay you

more. I am not talking about those bosses who exploit their workers and have no respect for workers' rights. Those ones have their special place in hell.

Hallelujah!

Pastor C&S

18/01/2024

Understanding Honour (Part 4)

How to show honour.

1. Loyalty.

This is the highest level of giving somebody honour. Loyalty is strong allegiance and support for someone. Loyalty is often seen when things are not good and when it is not popular to be seen with someone but you choose to stay and give your support. That is loyalty.

Jesus said to His loyal disciples one day in **Luke 22:28-29 (KJV)** Ye are they which have continued with me in my temptations.

And I appoint unto a kingdom, as my Father hath appointed unto me;

This was the best show of loyalty that the disciples showed to the Lord Jesus. They stayed with Him in His trials and the master felt He should reward them by appointing them to a Kingdom. Loyalty always attracts a reward.

If you remain with a person when he/she is at his/her worst that is loyalty. When you do not walk away because things are bad. When better options are there calling for you but you look back and say, no! I have to stay because I am loyal to this person, we have come from far together.

Many wives have stuck with their husbands during the worst periods of their lives as a show of loyalty to their marriages. They could have walked away but they stayed and because of that their husbands have respected them even more.

Anyone needs loyal people around him/her. You need loyal friends not those that will run away from you when you do not have the money you used to have. Never entertain a disloyal friend who will sell your friendship any day to the highest bidder. Honour is always expressed through loyalty.

2. Confidentiality is a sign of honour.

Even if you are no longer that close with someone, that does not mean you start telling people things that they confided in you during your friendship. In the corporate world and government, you will be given confidentiality forms to sign that you will not disclose the secrets of the company

anywhere you go but you as a believer you do not need to sign those forms. Your integrity will help you to honour your former friend by not exposing him/her to the world.

NB: Do not use the secret things that someone has confided in you to get back at them even after a fallout. Respect that line even under extreme provocation. Do not leak secrets. Do not sell out! That is being honourable!

Do not trust anyone who talks everything about their ex-friend or ex-pastor etc. That person lacks integrity and will one day turn against you and move around saying things that you tell him/her in confidence. Respect even your ex-lovers by not publicly spewing in public what you did privately. Do not say important things to people who have no integrity. You will find it in the streets tomorrow.

David had a very intelligent advisor called Ahithophel. He liked him because his advices were always spot on. Then one day, the king's son Absalom wanted to kill his father and usurp (take illegally or by force) the throne. He mobilised an army and pursued his father. When the king looked around and could not see Ahithophel, he knew that he had joined the enemy camp with all the secrets of the kingdom. He prayed and said in **2 Samuel 15:31 (KJV)** "And one told David, saying, Ahithophel is among the conspirators with Absalom. And David said, O LORD, I pray thee, turn the counsel of Ahithophel into foolishness.

Pastors C&S