

## HONOR FLOWS OUT OF LOVE

Honor flows from and is the fruit of Love, not a response to performance.

While the world gives honor based upon performance, the Kingdom gives honor based upon love.

*1 Corinthians 13:1-7 (NLT)*

*[1] If I could speak all the languages of earth and of angels, **but didn't love others**, I would only be a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. [2] If I had the gift of prophecy, and if I understood all of God's secret plans and possessed all knowledge, and if I had such faith that I could move mountains, **but didn't love others, I would be nothing**. [3] If I gave everything I have to the poor and even sacrificed my body, I could boast about it; **but if I didn't love others, I would have gained nothing**. [4] Love is **patient and kind**. Love is **not jealous or boastful or proud** [5] or **rude**. It does not **demand its own way**. It is **not irritable**, and it **keeps no record of being wronged**. [6] It does not rejoice about injustice but rejoices whenever the truth wins out. [7] Love never gives up, never loses faith, is always hopeful, and endures through every circumstance.*

We don't wait for people to earn honor, we assign them honor because we love them.

Love recognizes the Image of God in every person and sees value even in those who may not appear honorable.

Honor is one way that we show (express) love.

In the Kingdom, we honor those who we love, and since we are called to love everyone we can show honor even to enemies.

### **Corrie Ten Boom – Forgiveness Story (2:55)**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Pi9yDVC92bc&t=4s>

*She Honored the Guard responsible for great cruelty against her and her sister.*

# PREFERRING OTHERS ABOVE YOURSELF

*Preferring others is the practical outworking of **Honor & Humility**.*

*Philippians 2:3 (NLT)*

*[3] Don't be selfish; don't try to impress others. **Be humble, thinking of others as better than yourselves.***

*Romans 12:10 (ESV)*

*[10] Love one another with brotherly affection. **Outdo one another in showing honor.***

*The way of the Kingdom is that the greatest among us (leaders) must become servants. In a world obsessed with **Self-Promotion**, the Ekklesia should shine as people who elevate others joyfully.*

*Preferring others includes intentionally: listening, yielding space, celebrating their wins, and serving them without jealousy. **This dismantles comparison and creates a culture of family.***

## **Practical Application**

- *Teach your team never to compete with one another.*
- *Create environments where no one feels invisible.*

## **SPEAKING WORDS OF HONOR**

*Ephesians 4:29*

*[29] And never let ugly or hateful words come from your mouth, but instead **let your words become Beautiful Gifts** that encourage others; do this by **speaking words of grace to help them.***

*Speech is the vehicle of honor. When you speak well of others, you reinforce their identity, value, and dignity. The opposite, mockery, sarcasm, gossip, etc., strips honor and breeds division. Therefore, the Ephesians 4.29 command to edify others with our words is a call to Kingdom speech.*

- *Language is the gateway to Honor.*
- *Your words should always be filled with Love, Grace, and Honor.*
- *Your words should be “**Beautiful Gifts**” that you give to others to encourage and build them up.*
- *The motive behind your words should always be to encourage and help the other person.*

### **RAPID FIRE HONOR (Love Out Loud)**

*Have people come up randomly, one by one, for 30-60 seconds to honor someone in the congregation. Love out Loud*