



SPECIAL SERMON
"Honor Dew Part 2"
Sermon Small Group Questions
Speaker: Pastor Dave Patterson

USING THIS SERMON DISCUSSION GUIDE

- This Sermon Discussion Guide is only a tool to aid you in meeting the needs of your group. For most groups, there are too many questions to answer in one session together. After considering the needs of your group, you may choose one of the following options:
 1. one section of questions
 2. one or two questions from each section
- Feel free to adapt the format to meet the needs of your group. If your group is mature and wants to dig deeper, add Scripture and ask suitable questions. Remember that this is only a guide.
- Personal application is key to everyone's growth and should be included in every discussion. When asked how he or she intends to apply a certain principle a group member may say, "I need to spend more time in the Bible and in prayer." It is important for you to help group members make applications that are more specific and commit to a specific plan of action by asking, for example, "How are you going to begin?" An example is to get up 30 minutes earlier each morning, spending 15 minutes reading the Bible and 10 minutes in prayer. Encourage each group member to be accountable to the group for personal progress at the next meeting.
- As the leader your goal is to help bring the group into a stimulating discussion that helps the members recognize their need for personal life change. Ultimately you want them to be willing to commit to change with accountability to the group. Accountability helps us to persevere in our commitments and achieve the blessings of success.

INTRODUCTION

Living in a predominately dishonorable culture, it is our responsibility as children of God to infuse honor into our world thereby changing our culture.

Honor always has a reward and dishonor always has a price tag.

HONOR = putting value on something or someone, to value, respect, or highly esteem, to treat as precious , weighty or valuable

DISHONOR = treating something or someone as common / to devalue

Review:

5 directions we are to give honor

1. Honor those God has placed in a position of authority in your life
2. Honor everyone (honor does not discriminate)
3. Honor Your marriage & your spouse
4. Honor your body
5. Honor God

Today we will be focusing on how we can honor our God.

MESSAGE

How to honor God:

Eli was the priest at this time and he had two sons who helped him carry out the duties of a priest at the tabernacle of Moses however his sons were wicked and not living Godly lives and in fact were dishonoring God.

[1 Samuel 2:7, 22-25, 27-31, 35]

So the sin of these young men was very serious in the LORD's sight, for they treated the LORD's offerings with contempt. ²² Now Eli was very old, but he was aware of what his sons were doing to the people of Israel. He knew, for instance, that his sons were seducing the young women who assisted at the entrance of the Tabernacle.^[1] ²³ Eli said to them, "I have been hearing reports from all the people about the wicked things you are doing. Why do you keep sinning? ²⁴ You must stop, my sons! The reports I hear among the LORD's people are not good. ²⁵ If someone sins against another person, God can mediate for the guilty party. But if someone sins against the LORD, who can intercede?" But Eli's sons wouldn't listen to their father, ²⁷ One day a man of God came to Eli and gave him this message from the LORD: "I revealed myself^[2] to your ancestors when the people of Israel were slaves in Egypt. ²⁸ I chose your ancestor Aaron^[3] from among all the tribes of Israel to be my priest, to offer sacrifices on my altar, to burn incense, and to wear the priestly vest^[4] as he served me. And I assigned the sacrificial offerings to you priests. ²⁹ So why do you scorn my sacrifices and offerings? Why do you give your sons more honor than you give me—for you and they have become fat from the best offerings of my people Israel! ³⁰ "Therefore, the LORD, the God of Israel, says: I promised that your branch of the tribe of Levi would always be my priests. But I will honor those who honor me, and I will despise those who think lightly of me. ³¹ The time is coming when I will put an end to your family, so it will no longer serve as my priests. All the members of your family will die before their time. None will reach old age. ³⁵ "Then I will raise up a faithful priest who will serve me and do what I desire"

This is the principal:

[1 Samuel 2:30]

"I will honor those who honor me, but I will dishonor those who ignore me."

1. We Honor God with Unconditional obedience

(obedience that trumps close relationships)

Eli put his love for his sons above his love towards God. We must love God more than any other relationship, hobby or accomplishments, God is a jealousy God and longs for our love. It's this love that will perpetuate a life of honor.

Jesus said unless you hate mother, father, sister and brother you have no part of me. The word hate means to love less, so Jesus was saying we need to keep our love for Him a priority above all other loves that vie for our attention.

When you honor the Lord above all others you position yourself for a life of favor because God honors those who honor Him.

2. We Honor God with our wealth

[Proverbs 3:9]

*Honor the LORD with your wealth, with the **first-fruits** of all your produce;*

When we honor God in our finances He will honor us with supernatural provision.

[1 Corinthians 16:2]

On the first day of every week, each one of you should set aside a sum of money in keeping with your income,

Honoring God with our income is a decision we make today for the rest of our lives. It's not a weekly decision to be made. Today we decide that we will honor God and when we are blessed on Monday we now what we are going to bring on Sunday.

3. Honor God by Honoring His House

[Haggai 1:5-9]

Now this is what the LORD Almighty says: "Give careful thought to your ways. ⁶ You have planted much, but harvested little. You eat, but never have enough. You drink, but never have your fill. You put on clothes, but are not warm. You earn wages, only to put them in a purse with holes in it." ⁷ This is what the LORD Almighty says: "Give careful thought to your ways. ⁸ Go up into the mountains and bring down timber and build my house, so that I may take pleasure in it and be honored, " says the LORD. ⁹ "You expected much, but see, it turned out to be little. What you brought home, I blew away. Why?" declares the LORD Almighty. "Because my house remains ruins, while each of you is busy with your own house.

Being together with other believers in the house of God is honoring to Him. As we corporately honor God we change the atmosphere of our culture. He will open doors to us that no one can shut.

4. Honor God by Honoring “the Least”

[Matthew 25:37-42]

“Then these righteous ones will reply, ‘Lord, when did we ever see you hungry and feed you? Or thirsty and give you something to drink? ³⁸ Or a stranger and show you hospitality? Or naked and give you clothing? ³⁹ When did we ever see you sick or in prison and visit you?’

⁴⁰ “And the King will say, ‘I tell you the truth, when you did it to one of the least of these my brothers and sisters,^[i] you were doing it to me!’

⁴¹ “Then the King will turn to those on the left and say, ‘Away with you, you cursed ones, into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his demons. ⁴² For I was hungry, and you didn’t feed me....

When we give honor to those who least deserve it, according to Matt 25:40, we are giving honor to Christ himself.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- 1. How has intentionally honoring others this last week gone for you, and what has been the toughest part?**
- 2. When it comes to honoring God over others what are some struggles we might face? What are some victories we might see?**
- 3. How has God honored you as you have honored Him with your finances?**
- 4. Let's peel the banana, how important do you think it is to honor Gods house by being at church when the doors are open? (Leaders note: Do you understand that there is more happening through the gathering of the saints than just what is happening in the building, Gods Kingdom is being setup in our community as we gather together and exalt His Name.)**
- 5. Who is least in your world that you can honor? How can you honor them this week?**
- 6. In what ways do you need to pay more attention when it comes to honoring God?**