

The Pillar of Honour

Introduction:

We will be looking at Four Pillars of Grace – attitudes that position us to receive God's unearned favour. Today is "Honour" – valuing, respecting, and esteeming others because of God, not human merit. Dishonour closes the channel of grace; honour opens it.

Point 1: All People are Valuable

- God planned and designed each life (Psalm 139, Genesis 1:27, Psalm 8:4–5).
- Value is intrinsic, not based on behaviour or beliefs (John 3:16).
- Jesus' standard: love enemies, pray for persecutors, bless not curse (Matthew 5:44).

Point 2: Honouring Authority

- **Parents** – Ephesians 6:1–4: First command with promise; brings well-being ("shalom") and long life.
 - Honour the role, not perfection.
 - Parents also honour children (Ephesians 6:4).
- **Government** – Romans 13:1–4: All authority is instituted by God; honour the structure even if leaders are flawed.
 - Submission in attitude and speech releases blessing.

Point 3: Honouring Gifts and All People

- **Gifts and callings** – Matthew 10:40–42: Receiving God's messengers and recognising their gifts brings shared reward.
- **The weak** – Small acts of honour (e.g., cup of cold water) matter to God.
- **All people** – 1 Peter 2:17: Honour everyone; Titus 3:2: speak evil of no one.
 - Jesus in Nazareth (Mark 6:1–6): Lack of honour blocked miracles.
 - Familiarity, offence, and prejudice hinder receiving God's grace.

Conclusion & Life Applications

- **Avoid reviling** – 1 Corinthians 6:10: Reviling is sin; rooted in pride (James 4:6).
- **Honour without idolatry** – Different roles, equal value (Matthew 23:8–12).
- **Practice honour** in speech, attitude and actions
- **Obey God first** – Acts 5:29: Respectfully decline authority when it conflicts with God's commands.
- **Truth to remember** – Honour opens the flow of grace in families, churches, and communities.

Questions

1. What would it mean to "honour all people" in everyday life? (1 Peter 2:17)
2. Can you think of a time when dishonour blocked a relationship or blessing in your life?
3. How can we show honour to someone we disagree with or find difficult to respect?