

August 9, 2026

SUNDAY REFLECTION — Put Honor First

August Series: Christ-Centered Relationships

Week Focus: Put Honor First

Scripture – Romans 12:10 - *“Be devoted to one another in love. Honor one another above yourselves.”*

Devotional Reflection

As you pause to reflect on this past week, take a moment to consider how God has been shaping your heart through His Word. Honor is far more than polite behavior or respectful manners—it is a Christlike way of seeing, speaking to, listening to, and serving others. Throughout this week, God has been inviting you to intentionally communicate the value He has placed on every person you encounter. While those choices may have seemed small in the moment, they are evidence of the Holy Spirit's transforming work within you.

Perhaps you found yourself speaking more gently during a difficult conversation. Maybe you listened more patiently instead of rushing to respond. You may have expressed appreciation to someone you had unintentionally taken for granted or extended grace where offense once lived. These moments are not insignificant. They remind us that spiritual transformation often takes place through ordinary acts of daily obedience. As we faithfully respond to God's Word, He continues shaping us into the likeness of Christ.

One of the beautiful truths about honor is that it reflects the very heart of Jesus. Throughout His ministry, He consistently valued people others overlooked. He welcomed the outcast, served with humility, forgave generously, and treated people with dignity and compassion. As followers of Christ, we are called to do the same. Every time we choose honor over selfishness, encouragement over criticism, listening over interruption, or grace over resentment, we become living reflections of His love.

As you prepare to worship today, thank God not only for what He has taught you but also for the work He is continuing to do within you. Spiritual growth is rarely accomplished in a single moment; it is cultivated through daily surrender and faithful obedience. Celebrate the progress God has made in you while asking the Holy Spirit to continue producing the character of Christ in every relationship He has entrusted to you. Honor is not simply something we practice when relationships are easy—it becomes part of who we are as Christ transforms our hearts.

As we conclude this first week of **Christ-Centered Relationships**, remember that honor is not a one-week assignment—it is a lifelong way of living. Let what God has taught you this week become a foundation upon which He continues building stronger families, healthier friendships, deeper church relationships, and more Christ-centered connections. Keep putting honor first. As you do, your relationships can become places where people experience the love, grace, and character of Jesus through you.

Focus for Today

A life that consistently honors others becomes a living reflection of Jesus Christ.

Practice

- Before worship today, spend a few quiet moments reflecting on what God has taught you this week.
 - Ask yourself: **How has God changed the way I see and treat people?**
 - Consider who you intentionally honored this week and whether a relationship became stronger because of that choice.
 - Write down one lesson from this week that you want to continue practicing.
 - Pray this simple prayer as you move forward: **“Lord, help me put honor first in every relationship.”**
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Prayer

Father, thank You for speaking to me throughout this week and for continuing to transform my heart through Your Word. Thank You for teaching me that honor begins with seeing people the way You see them and loving them the way Christ has loved me. Continue shaping my attitudes, my words, and my actions so that every relationship reflects Your grace and truth. Help me carry these lessons beyond this week, making honor a daily way of life. May my life consistently point others to Jesus, and may everything I do bring glory to Your name. In Jesus' name, Amen.

Final Reflection Question

Looking back over this week, where have you seen God transform your heart, and how will you continue putting honor first in your relationships moving forward?