Ways in Which We Honor God

1 Samuel 2:30... Those who honor me I will honor, but those who despise me will be disdained.

Ouestions:

- What does the Word "honor" mean?
- Why is it important to honor God?
- In which ways can we honor God?

Objectives:

- To understand the concept and importance of honoring God
- To comprehend and practice the different ways of honoring God

There is a saying that states: "Show me who you honor, and I'll show you the kind of person you are." What kind of person do you want to be? If you honor God, you will reveive honor.

Introduction: What is honor?

In Greek, it is the verb "timao", which means to have an attitude of honor towards someone; to greatly esteem, to consider in appreciation, with great value. Honor expressed with words and no acts, is not honor. **We are able to honor God in various ways, let us view the following:**

We Honor God:

1. WITH OUR TESTIMONY Matthew 5:14-16

- a. We honor God with our testimony, by glorifying God through our actions when approaching believers and non-believers.
- b. We must be known by others as honest people; having a good character, not fighting, neither being rude nor poorly spoken, honest, responsible, not filled with anger or resentment but rather filled with the love of God.
- c. When we demonstrate the virtues of God's love we show that we are His children.

2. WITH OUR WORDS Psalm 63:3

- We honor God with our words, with the praise that comes out of our mouths, with words that edify and publicize His great love.
- We honor with words not only to God but to those around us, we can honor our parents (physical and spiritual) with words of gratitude and respect, to our spouse with words of affirmation, etc.
- a. WITH OUR MONEY: Within the entire Scripture, there is much evidence revealing that honor is not only of lips, but must be accompanied by wealth,

gold, silver and material goods. We honor with our money in the following ways:

a) Tithes and Offerings: Psalm 96:8

- In the Old Testament God demands His honor through tithes and offerings (Malachi 1.6).
- **Tithes are the 10%** of our entire income. This portion is destined to supply the needs of the church. **Malachi 3:10.**
- An offering is a specific amount that we propose in our hearts to give to God in the services, houses of peace, classes, etc.
- **Sowing**. This is a special gift (not the regular offering) for certain occasions, such as some church projects (construction of the temple), covenants with a specific purpose. **2 Corinthians 9:6-7**

b) First Fruits: Proverbs 3:9

- Refers to the practice of giving God the first and best portion of our harvest; which in this case are the first fruits of the year that we offer to God in honor, for example: you can give God the first day of the year, the first week, the first check, the first business, the first sale, etc.
- With our first fruits we recognize that everything belongs to God and that everything that we have, we have received from His hand, therefore we honor.
- Giving our first fruits is the way to ensure we will have a good harvest throughout the year. God promises to bless and honor us when we honor him.
 - c) Honor the earthly parents: Exodus 20:12.
 - God calls us to honor our earthly parents, and a way to do this is through our finances; whether they need it or not it is a mandate from God to honor them as sons and daughters: sending money regularly, not forgetting them.

3. WITH OUR TIME AND SERVICE Exodus 23:25

- a. Serving God and giving Him our time is a way of honoring Him.
- b. Be the host or leader of a House of Peace, freely giving your gifts with no selfish interest, serving in the church (usher, teacher, cooking, etc.) making the kingdom a priority in your life. Assisting the church services faithfully, not putting them off when there's "time" or until the last minute.
- c. God promises to bless us, to provide, and to heal us when we serve Him with all our heart; when we do not create limits or excuses, when we Honor Him by making Him our greatest priority in our life.

SINNER'S PRAYER

Lord Jesus I recognize I have sinned and that you died for me, today I repent and ask for forgiveness. I give you my life **Conclusion:** God promises honor when we honor Him. Honor will bring blessings to our lives, prosperity, healing etc. The first and best way of honoring God is accepting the sacrifice of His son Jesus Christ and surrendering your life to Him; honor our heavenly father giving your life to Jesus Christ.

Practical Application:

- · Review the ways in which we can honor God.
- Evaluate the areas you may have failed to honor God and begin to practice honor. You may still bring your first fruits to the Lord.

Weekly Announcements:

• Retreat Three Days of Power: February 6-8