



HEBRON

Sunday, February 10, 2019

Dr. Landon Dowden

LOVING AND HONORING ONE ANOTHER

Romans 12:10

Passage in a Sentence: By God's mercies, believers are to be devoted to and love one another affectionately while striving to honor others rather than just seeking to be honored.

I. BY GOD'S MERCIES, BELIEVERS LOVE ONE ANOTHER WITH BROTHERLY AFFECTION.

- a. What is brotherly or family affection? (1 Sam. 18:1-5; 20:17, 41-42)
 - i. Included in "brotherly or family affection" is not just doing something for one another but feeling something as well. (1 Pet. 1:22; Phil. 1:8; 2 Cor. 6:11-13)
 - ii. LIFE APP: This kind of love allows for weaknesses and imperfection, communicates, deals with problems, affirms others and has a strong commitment and loyalty to others. Such a bond will hold any church together no matter what problems come from without or within.

- b. Why does this love matter?
 - i. Loving with brotherly affection shows that we have been born of God. (1 Pet. 1:22-23; 1 Jn. 4:7; 5:1; 4:20; 3:14)
 - ii. Loving with brotherly affection shows that we have been adopted by God. (Gal. 4:1-7)
 - iii. Loving with brotherly affection shows that we are Christ's disciples. (Jn. 13:35)



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- c. What should I do if I don't feel brotherly affection for everyone else in our faith family?
 - i. Pray and ask God to produce this affection in you.
 - ii. Consider the cross.
 - iii. Remember they are your brother and sister.
 - iv. Remember sanctification is a process and so is growing in our love for other believers.
 - v. Believe that God can change you and them.
 - vi. Thank God for fruit you see in them.
 - vii. Remember that in Heaven our relationships will be perfect.
(All of our disagreements are temporary).

- II. BY GOD'S MERCIES, BELIEVERS OUTDO ONE ANOTHER IN SHOWING HONOR.
 - a. We are called to:
 - i. Cultivate humility more than a desire to be honored.
 - ii. Give praise more than we seek to be praised.
 - iii. Count the needs of others as more important than our own.

 - b. What does it mean to honor?
 - i. To esteem, to value, to hold in high regard

 - c. What does "honoring" look like in the Gospel Community?
 - i. Widows – 1 Tim. 5:3
 - ii. Elders – 1 Tim. 5:17
 - iii. Children/Parents – Eph. 6:2
 - iv. Husbands/Wives – 1 Pet. 3:7



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- d. How do we do this?
 - i. Pray.
 - ii. Consider the cross.
 - iii. Boice: And in respect to honor, lead the way for each other. In other words, don't wait around for people to recognize your contributions and praise you. Instead, be alert to what they are contributing and honor them. Unfortunately, if we look at today's church, we must conclude that the exact opposite is more often the case. Instead of thinking about and appreciating other Christians and what they are doing, our minds are usually on ourselves, and we are resentful that we are not sufficiently recognized or appreciated. This is how true love functions. It gets to the front of the line not to receive its own honors, but to show honor and respect for other people.