

# Christians Are People of Honor

## Introduction:

There is more to being a Christian than just being a “churchgoer”. There are many who have convinced themselves that as long as they make an appearance in the church building from time to time they are faithful to God. Now, we certainly understand, according to the scriptures that we must attend the services of a local church.

What is required of me to be a faithful Christian? Christianity is a life-path: a path on which your whole life is moving in one direction. We must develop our entire life around the characteristics of Christianity. In this lesson let’s consider the characteristic of “honor”. As Christians we are to be people of honor.

The scriptures record eight times from Exodus 20:12 through Ephesians 6:2 to “*honor your father and mother*”. This is one of the first principles of life: God intended that children be trained and learn to honor their parents so as they mature they will be people of honor.

Webster’s Online Dictionary: Defines this use of “honor” in the sense that we are using (a transitive verb) as: 1) To regard or treat with honor or respect or to confer honor on and 2) To live up to or fulfill the terms of <*honor* a commitment> .

Peter in his first epistle instructs us as Christians to “*Honor all people. Love the brotherhood. Fear God. Honor the king*” (1 Peter 2:17). Here are our three points for this lesson: a. Honor God; b. Honor our brethren, and c. Honor all people

## Christians Honor God

God is perfect in every way: unquestionably deserving of honor. God also desires to be honored (Revelation 19:5 “*Then a voice came from the throne, saying, “Praise our God, all you His servants and those who fear Him, both small and great!”*” We can accomplish this desire for honor by seeking God (Matthew 6:33) and praising God (Psalm 148) and submitting to God (Matthew 7:21-23).

We honor God by heeding His advice. God knows that we need advice because we do not know which way to go without Him. Paul challenged those who claim wisdom (1 Corinthians 1:20-29). We may think we know everything—we don’t! God pitied us and provided what we lack—direction (Hebrews 1:1-2). God is honored when we listen to His offer of direction and do His will.

We are to be doers of His word (James 1:22-25). God is honored when we teach only His will: Matthew 15:8-9 tells us that there is no honor toward God when we teach our own commandments. We can also look at 2 Timothy 4:1-5 where all preachers are specifically directed to “Preach the word”. We are people of honor who properly respect God and His word. As people of honor we hold to our commitment to God (Hebrews 10:35-39).

## Christians Honor Their Brethren

Resentment, hard-feelings, unwillingness to forgive, and being full of envy, do not belong among the brethren. Certainly those who agree with point one know that such behavior does not honor God. We being people of honor would never seek to go against God’s will. The proper picture is found in Romans 12:9-15 “*In honor giving preference to one another*”.

We also need to consider one another (Hebrews 10:24-25) and as needed we bear one another’s burdens (Galatians 6:1-2). It is to these things which we are called in our relationship with our brethren. We need to honor our brethren by caring for them as we should. We need to be people of honor by living up to our calling. We honor our brethren by meeting their needs and upholding our end of the relationship as honorable people.

## Christians Honor Their Fellow Men

We certainly have a special relationship with our brethren but this does not subtract from our need to honor others. We may wonder how we can “honor” sinners. It is simple if we approach the subject from the standpoint of gospel. We have been directed by Jesus to go to world and preach the gospel to

every creature (Matthew 28:18-20; Mark 16:15-16). As people of honor we diligently maintain our commitment to help others find salvation. We also need to have honor in the eyes of others so that they will have no opportunity to convict us of wrong-doing. We will honor all people by providing them with the right example (Romans 12:17). We will honor all people by teaching them the truth and nothing else (Galatians 1:6-9). We will honor all people by offering them the gospel hope (Romans 1:16).

**Conclusion:**

Honor is a characteristic of a Christian. There is much more to a Christian than just a “churchgoer”. Christians are special people on purpose. There are too many who have convinced themselves that as long as they make an appearance in the church building from time to time they are faithful to God. Honor is part of the life-path of Christianity. Are you an honorable person? If you are not yet a Christian God is looking for people like you. Bring your honor with you into Christ. Are you ready? ~tss