

Honor

LC All Staff

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When God first speaks of honor in the Ten Commandments, He promises that long life will be our reward for honoring our parents. Many believe that this command reveals a principle of honor in general. Life flows through honor.

A culture of honor is created as a community of people learns to discern and receive people in their God-given identities.

Definition of organizational culture: the values and behaviors that “contribute to the unique social and psychological environment of an organization.

Culture—the social behavior and norms found in human societies.

Style—observable preferences
(dress, music, worship, activities)

Substance—stated and visible expectations of defined behavior. Mission, vision, values, strategic plan, etc.

Shadows—positive and/or negative realities (behaviors and influence) not easily observed, stated or recognized by the majority. (Karl Rove and Valerie Jarret were called the shadow presidents of George Bush and Barack Obama)

Honor—respect, recognition of achievement, affirmation. As a verb it means to regard or treat someone or something with admiration and respect. To show esteem. Some would say that honor means being true to a set of personal ideals, or being a person of integrity. They are honorable.

I know there is a thin line between honor and what some would think is manipulation, (apple polishing” (there are other street terms I won’t use), etc.

Let’s unpack what it means to have a culture of honor.

I’ll make some suggestions and you can add your own.

1. Honor creates access
2. Honor opens the door of favor. One day of favor equals many days of labor.
3. Honor can make room for you at a table sooner than you could have gotten there on your own.

4. Honor can accelerate promotion, increased support, more influence, higher salary, better results, etc.

PUBLIC LOYALTY EQUALS PRIVATE LEVERAGE.

- Everyone wants to feel worthwhile
- Everyone needs and responds to encouragement
- No one likes to feel belittled
- No one wants to be manipulated
- No one wants to be ignored

Flattery is satanic, but honor and respect are biblical.

Proverbs 3:27 “Do not withhold good from those who deserve it, when it is in your power to act.”

Romans 13:7 “Give honor and respect to all to whom it is due.”

Romans 12:10 “Let us have real warm affection for one another as between brothers and a willingness to let the other man have the credit.”

How are some legitimate ways to show honor in our setting:

1. Publicly, enthusiastically support and begin to live out (practice) the mission, vision and values of LC
2. Have an attitude of gratitude that is demonstrated verbally, by email, etc. Not just to the Pastor Or your immediate supervisor, but to any one that chooses to open a door, give a gift, say a kind word, perform a task that they weren't required to do, etc. How many times have you given a gift for graduation or wedding and you didn't even know if they received it or not.
3. Practice praising others. Visibly demonstrate affirmation—by praying for someone (words to God about you) and compliments (words to you about you). Appreciation is one of the basic human needs. We need to feel known, acknowledged and valued. Put it in writing and document your applause for lasting effect. Let others know your affirmation for a job well done, a song sung, a sermon preached, a lesson taught, for a servant attitude, for anyone visibly demonstrating one of the values.
4. Second hand praise can be more significant than direct praise. Let someone else know your appreciation for one of their relatives or colleagues.
5. Affirm their efforts, their loyalty, their differences, or their ideas.

6. I've discussed the power of affirmation and praise, now here is another way to honor others—Defer praise. Pass it on to your team members, etc.

7. Operate with an attitude of "YES". If "no" is necessary, it must be compelling.

8. You show honor when you give someone else permission to call you out.

9. You show honor when you commit to "the final 10% of truth.