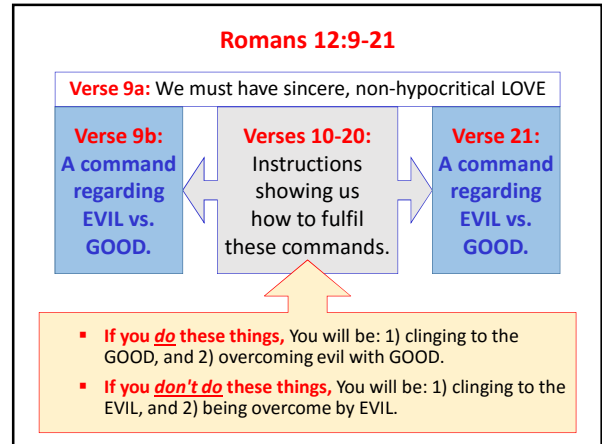


# LOVE

## Without Hypocrisy

(in the book of Romans)

**06 – Rom. 12:10b**



**Romans 12:10-13:**  
Instructions for interacting with our "brothers" – all people who are genuine followers of Jesus.

**V. 10a:** The #1 command.  
**Be devoted to one another in brotherly love.**  
Romans 12:10a (NIV)

↓

**V. 10b:** The #1 way to express this love.  
**Honor one another above yourselves.**  
Romans 12:10b (NIV)

**Honor one another above yourselves.**  
Romans 12:10b (NIV)

**Different ways to translate this command:**

in honor preferring one another (WEB, also KJV)  
take delight in honoring each other. (NLT)  
Outdo one another in showing honor. (ESV)  
showing eagerness in honoring one another. (NET)

**Honor one another above yourselves.**  
Romans 12:10b (NIV)

**This instruction involves THREE ISSUES:**


1. **WHO:** one another
2. **WHAT:** honor
3. **HOW:** expressing it to others *eagerly*

**ISSUE #1**

**"ONE ANOTHER":**  
*Recipients* of this honor must also be *givers* of this honor!

**Honor one another above yourselves.**  
Romans 12:10b (NIV)

**I'D RATHER BE A SPONGE AND JUST SOAK IT ALL UP!!!**



**This is sin!**

(It's evidence that we are NOT part of the family.)



**God does not save people so that they can become PARASITES!**



**I'LL TAKE ALL I CAN GET! BUT I'M NOT INTERESTED IN THAT "ONE ANOTHER" IDEA!**

**This is sin!**

**ISSUE #2**

**"HONOR"**

It has to do with the **VALUE** or **WORTH** of something or someone

**Honor one another above yourselves.**

Romans 12:10b (NIV)

**GIVING "HONOR" TO PEOPLE**

- In this verse, the focus is on honoring our Christian *family*.  
(Scripture also tells us about obligations to honor other people.)
- The way we honor people will influence the way we treat them.

**GIVING "HONOR" TO THINGS?**

**YES, PEOPLE GIVE "HONOR" to more than just people!**

**WHEN WE "HONOR" AN OBJECT**

- We describe it in terms of *value* or *importance*.
- We may also use words related to *cost* or *money*.

The *value* of the books was several million dollars.

Acts 19:19b (NLT)

THIS IS THE SAME WORD THAT IS TRANSLATED AS "HONOR" IN OTHER PASSAGES

**WHEN WE "HONOR" PEOPLE (OR GOD)**

- We describe them in terms of *value* or *importance*. We hold them in high *regard*.

HONOR MAY BE REQUIRED WHETHER OR NOT THE INDIVIDUAL IS SAVED.

**"Honor your father and mother."**

Ephes. 6:2a (NLT)

AN EXAMPLE OF PEOPLE **NOT** FULFILLING THEIR OBLIGATION.

For Jesus Himself testified that a prophet has no *honor* in his own country.

John 4:44 (NASB)

BECAUSE OF YOUR COURAGE IN THE LINE OF DUTY, WE HONOR YOU THIS SPECIAL MEDAL!



SOMETIMES PEOPLE SYMBOLIZE HONOR WITH MEDALLIONS

**BUT THE BIBLE'S CONCEPT OF "HONOR" GOES FAR BEYOND SYMBOLS!**

# “BEWARE” of FAKE "Honor"

**WE'VE ALL SEEN IT...**

- It's common in the world, and among church-going fakes.
- What they say ... they don't mean. They are characterized by lies, evil motives, and self-interest.

They bless with their mouths,  
but in their hearts they curse.

Psalm 62:4b (GW)

Major corporations tend to do this. They call it being "politically correct."

**MEMO TO MANAGERS**

This year's goal is to squeeze 5% more work out of the employees.

Make them feel important. They will work harder, and we will make more profit.

Employees who don't enhance our profit margin should be terminated. Tell them we are very sad to lose them.

### THE OPPOSITE OF "HONOR"

- To treat something (or someone) as having *no value* or *importance*. Sometimes it is translated as "shame" or "dishonor."
- It can include condemnation and/or punishment.

The apostles ... were happy to have been considered worthy to suffer *dishonor* for speaking about Jesus.

Acts 5:41 (GW)

**WHAT THE RELIGIOUS LEADERS THOUGHT ABOUT JESUS' APOSTLES:** YOU ARE SO WORTHLESS THAT YOU DESERVE TO BE PUNISHED!

**ISSUE #3**

## PUTTING OTHER PEOPLE FIRST, & EAGER TO DO SO!

Honor one another above yourselves.

Romans 12:10b (NIV)

( This concept is difficult to translate in just 1-2 words, which is why translations vary. )

Honor one another above yourselves.

Romans 12:10b (NIV)

### YOU have value ... and it means a lot to me!

**ABOUT YOUR VALUE ...**

- *You have value*, and I am eager to recognize it!
- *I value you* more than I value myself!

**ABOUT MY OWN VALUE ...**

- My own value is *not* my focus or concern.
- I would rather have people recognize *your* value, than mine.

Honor one another above yourselves.

Romans 12:10b (NIV)

### YOU have value ... and I want it to be known!

**EAGER TO HONOR OTHERS...**

- I *want* to acknowledge your value! (It's not something I do grudgingly.)

**TAKING THE LEAD, BEING "PROACTIVE" ...**

- I'm going to *take the initiative* to honor others, whether or not other people are doing so.
- If necessary, I'll set the example!

People often wait to see what others are doing...  
and then go along with them.  
**We call this "peer pressure" or "herd mentality."**

**I'LL DO WHAT THEY DO!**

**NOT THIS!!!**

**Honor one another above yourselves.**  
Romans 12:10b (NIV)

**IF YOU MOO, THEN I'LL MOO!**

**Do you really want your life to be controlled by "the herd"?**

**Honor one another above yourselves.**  
Romans 12:10b (NIV)

- **THIS WEEK:** Our focus has been on expressing honor within the *family of God*.
- **NEXT WEEK:** We plan to look more at the concept of "honor."
- **IN THE MEANTIME:** Let's put to practice what we already know!

**Your Mission...**

**"RECOGNIZE AND PROMOTE THE VALUE (HONOR) OF YOUR FAMILY IN CHRIST"**

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**CONSIDER...**

- In what ways is this an expression of "brotherly love"? (v. 10a)

**ASK YOURSELF...**

- In what ways do I value others in my Christian family?
- Are there ways I need to improve my attitude or actions toward them?

**Credits (1)**

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# Your Mission...

**"Honor one another above yourselves."**

**Romans 12:10b (NIV)**

**"HONOR"** - Recognizing value, importance, or worth in someone (or something). We are to recognize the value of our Christian brothers and sisters.

**In God's family, all have value!**

**This should be our goal:** To recognize the value of others in the family. *This is a demonstration of love for them (v. 10a)!*

**This should NOT be our goal:** To go around trying to assert our own value! *This is a demonstration of self-love!*

**"ONE ANOTHER"** - The need to recognize another's value is *not* one-sided, but works in *both* directions. *All* should be honored... and *all* should give it!

**"ABOVE YOURSELVES"** - Describes our attitude concerning the value of others. This includes:

- 1) A desire to recognize their value (= to "honor" them).
- 2) An eagerness to do so, regardless of what others may do.
- 3) Not being concerned about having one's own value recognized.

## Learning from *bad* examples!

We can learn about bad examples... and then *do the opposite!*

- 1) 3 John 1:9-10 - A leader named Diotrephes wanted all the attention, and would "put down" anyone else who deserved to be honored. Don't follow his evil example (v. 11a)!
- 2) James 2:1-8 - The people were showing favoritism toward the rich, and mistreating the poor. Yet the rich were the very ones who were exploiting them and dishonoring God (v. 6b-7)! Contrast this to what James says about the poor, in v. 5.
- 3) Luke 14:7-11 - At a banquet, people were trying to sit up front where the distinguished guests would sit. Jesus warned them to not think so highly about themselves. (They needed the attitude that Paul describes in this verse. ↴)

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### This should be our motto!

Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit, but in humility consider others better than yourselves. Each of you should look not only to your own interests, but also to the interests of others. Philip. 2:3-4 (NIV)

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With such an attitude, honoring others becomes a natural part of our lives. (It is also following *Jesus'* example - see v. 5+.)

### Suppose people don't honor us ...

- 1) We will be in good company. That's the way they treated Jesus (John 4:44) and the apostles (Acts 5:41)!
- 2) Our duty is to serve God, whether or not people recognize our value. Like Paul, prove yourself to be God's servant, whether you receive "glory" (praise) or "dishonor" - 2 Corinthians 6:8.