

Signs of the Caring and Committed  
**#36: Don't Miss Chance to Honor!**  
Romans 12:10b

***“Give preference to one another in honor”***

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

Paul has established so far in Romans 12:9 & 10 that Romans Christians should love genuinely, run for dear life from evil, be glued to goodness, and to love our Christian family like blood family. The inspired writer now encourages the Romans Christians and us to “prefer” one another in honor. But how do we do so?

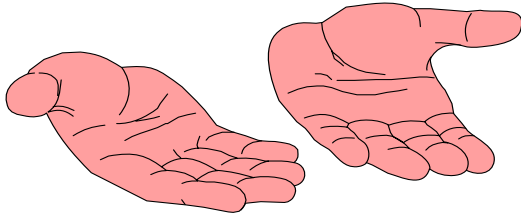
It starts with our not having a self-seeking attitude. Paul, in speaking with the Corinthians, says in II Cor 5:15 “he died for all, so that *they who live might no longer live for themselves...*” Christ’s sacrifice is what ultimately puts us all on the same level regardless of age, education, pedigree, wealth, height, weight, or employment status. So it is not surprising that Paul expresses a similar sentiment in Phil 2:3-4:

***“Do nothing from selfishness or empty conceit, but with humility of mind regard one another as more important than yourselves; do not merely look out for your own personal interests, but also for the interests of others.”***

Second, knowing that “if anyone loves God, he is known by Him” (I Cor 8:3) we should develop a healthy respect for everyone in the kingdom, regardless of who they are. Jesus chimes in on this in Mat 11:11 “Truly I say to you, among those born of women there has not arisen anyone greater than John the Baptist! Yet the one who is least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he.” Paul further adds in I Cor 12:23: “and those members of the body which we deem less honorable, on these we bestow more abundant honor, and our less presentable members become much more presentable.”

Finally, our love for God and respect for everyone in the kingdom should spur us to want to outdo each other in our efforts to render due honor. We should look for opportunities to appreciate and compliment each

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**other. Giving credit for work performed, devoting attention to items that others need, showing fondness for those that do great work are all included in this concept. For us to recognize and commend others is all that is needed to boost the faith of some. The idea of rendering “honor to whom honor is due” while owing “no one anything” (Romans 13:7-8) insists that we not try and “stay current” on our “honor” bill.**

**Utilizing the power in appropriately given “praise” and “thanks” is so “Christian”, the world will be able to identify us by the smile on our collective faces. It is not about us, but about us in Christ--*together*. Godspeed to you all this week.**

**With Care and Commitment,**

**Patrick Medlock, Minister**

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