



## Better Perspective

### WEEK 5 DISCUSSION GUIDE

#### Overview

In the final message of our *Better* series, we will discover the importance of walking in honor and having a better perspective.

#### Discussion Questions

In our culture today, honor has become absent. If we aren't careful, dishonoring others as the world does can easily become a part of our daily lives. **Romans 12:2 (NLT)** says, **Don't copy the behavior and customs of this world, but let God transform you into a new person by changing the way you think.**

Paul says in **2 Corinthians 10:2**, **They are only comparing themselves with each other and using themselves as the standard of measurement.** We shouldn't set our standards by comparing our lives and actions to others. If we want to have the thriving relationships God designed, we have to stop measuring ourselves against culture and go back to God's Word to see what it says about healthy relationships.

**1 Peter 2:17** says, **Honor all people. Love the brotherhood. Fear God. Honor the king.** Peter says here to honor everyone in our lives. There are three places we can honor people: below, beside, and above.

#### 1. **Below | Honor all people**

Many of us have people who look to us for leadership: children, employees, students, etc. Even though we are in a position above those people, God calls us to honor them well.

**Matthew 20:25-26** says, **But Jesus called them together and said, "You know that the rulers in this world lord it over their people, and officials**

**flaunt their authority over those under them. But among you it will be different. Whoever wants to be a leader among you must be your servant,”**

- How can we better honor those who look up to us?
- What practical things can you do to serve them?

## **2. Beside | Honor those alongside**

The Apostle Peter goes on to say in **1 Peter 2:17**, **...Love the brotherhood...** Peter is speaking of our peer relationships: co-workers, friends, brothers and sisters in Christ, etc. The world tells us that if we disagree, we are free to dishonor. Yet God’s Word tells us a very different story. In **Luke 6:32**, Jesus says, **“If you love only those who love you, why should you get credit for that? Even sinners love those who love them!”** Jesus says to honor all.

**1 Peter 3:7** says, **In the same way, you husbands must give honor to your wives. Treat your wife with understanding as you live together. She may be weaker than you are, but she is your equal partner in God’s gift of new life. Treat her as you should so your prayers will not be hindered.**

- Are you struggling to honor others in any of your current relationships?
- How can we show honor to those alongside us when we disagree?

## **3. Above | Honor those over you**

Peter closes out **1 Peter 2:17** with: **...Fear God. Honor the king.** In this verse, he urges them to “honor their rulers.” We all have people in our lives who hold a certain level of authority over us. God’s Word is very clear that we are to honor people who have authority over us. Respect is earned, but Honor is given. Honor looks past the person to the position they hold. In **2 Samuel 1**, we see that David didn’t just see Saul (the man), he saw Saul (the God-given, appointed leader). If you can’t honor the behavior, honor the position. If you can’t praise the person, pray for the person.

- What should you do or not do in order to honor those above you?

## **Life Challenge**

Jesus honored us even when we didn’t deserve it. His perfect blood paid for us on our most imperfect day. Pray about which relationships you need to be more honorable in. Love and value those relationships as Jesus loves and values us.

## **Prayer**

*Thank You, God, for valuing and honoring us every day. Help us to be more like You and show honor to others. Reveal to us the areas in which we need to grow, and guide us as we take steps to improve how we value others in our relationships. Amen.*

Pray for the specific needs of the group.