



THE LIVING ROOM / HONOR & REWARD / BEGINNER - CLASS 03

SCRIPTURE REFERENCES

Honor In The Body | Value, gifts, service, and interdependence

PURPOSE

This guide accompanies the class and helps you read its passages in context. The Greek and Hebrew notes explain important terms, but they do not replace the full message of the biblical text.

CENTRAL IDEA

Honor recognizes God's provision through every member of the Body without confusing function, visibility, or responsibility with greater human worth.

1 CORINTHIANS 12:12-27

One Body, many members

Paul presents the church as one Body composed of different, interdependent members. Neither inferiority nor superiority belongs here: no member is the whole Body, and none can say to another, "I don't need you."

TERM	LANGUAGE	MEANING & CONTRIBUTION
soma	Greek	body Paul's central metaphor for the unity and diversity of the church.
melos	Greek	member / part of the body Each believer belongs to the Body and contributes through a particular function.
schisma	Greek	division / rupture 1 Corinthians 12:25 connects God's design of the Body with mutual care rather than division.
merimnao	Greek	to care / be concerned for In this context it describes the mutual concern members have for one another.

ROMANS 12:3-10

Gifts without superiority

Paul brings together humility, diversity of gifts, genuine love, and mutual honor. Gifts are not a basis for superiority but a responsibility to serve the Body.

TERM	LANGUAGE	MEANING & CONTRIBUTION
charisma	Greek	gift of grace A gift received by grace, not a medal of spiritual superiority.
philostorgos	Greek	devoted affection / familial love Describes the relational warmth that should characterize Christian community.
time	Greek	honor, value, esteem Romans 12:10 calls believers to take initiative in honoring one another.

Leadership that equips the Body

The ministries Paul names serve to equip the saints, build up the Body, and lead it toward maturity. Leadership function is directed toward developing others, not creating a spiritually superior class.

TERM	LANGUAGE	MEANING & CONTRIBUTION
kataartismos	Greek	equipping / preparation Describes the preparation of the saints for the work of ministry.
diakonia	Greek	service / ministry Highlights the service-oriented nature of ministry.
oikodome	Greek	building up / construction The goal is for the Body to be built and strengthened.
auxano	Greek	to grow Ephesians 4 directs ministry activity toward the growth of the Body in Christ.

1 CORINTHIANS 3:5-9

Servants, not competitors

Paul corrects competition surrounding leaders. One plants, another waters, but God gives the growth. Honor allows us to value different contributions without turning them into rivalry.

TERM	LANGUAGE	MEANING & CONTRIBUTION
diakonos	Greek	servant / minister Paul describes workers as servants through whom others came to believe.
synergos	Greek	coworker / fellow worker The image emphasizes cooperation in God's work.

PHILIPPIANS 2:3-4

Considering others

Christian humility confronts selfish ambition and empty glory. Honor includes looking beyond our own interests and paying attention to the good of others.

TERM	LANGUAGE	MEANING & CONTRIBUTION
tapeinophrosyne	Greek	humility of mind A disposition that rejects self-exaltation and allows us to take others seriously.
kenodoxia	Greek	empty glory / vain ambition Describes the pursuit of recognition that can feed competition and comparison.

Don't confuse the terms

Body of Christ	An interdependent community in which diversity of function does not mean diversity of worth.
Gift	An ability or provision received by grace to contribute to the good and maturity of the Body.
Leadership	Responsibility to serve, equip, protect, and help others mature; not a category of greater human value.
Visibility	Being publicly seen does not make a function more valuable. Many essential contributions remain off the platform.
Interdependence	Maturity that knows how to contribute and also receive. "I don't need you" contradicts the logic of the Body.

QUESTIONS FOR BETTER READING

- 01 What does this passage reveal about God's character and ways?
- 02 What is the text actually commanding, describing, correcting, or warning about?
- 03 What does the Greek or Hebrew term add to my understanding of the passage?
- 04 Am I reading this verse within its context or isolating it?
- 05 How should this text transform the way I practice honor?

CLASS 03 IN ONE SENTENCE

"Learning to honor those who are not "above" us in rank but beside us in function is essential to building a true Kingdom culture."