

# Culture of Honor - 6

## **The culture of honor creates a safe place:**

- It is a safe place, heavy on Grace and light on Rules!
- It is a safe place where people are free to use their gifts and resources without feeling like their every move is being judged and/or criticized.
- It is a safe place where people are free to confess and repent of their sins without the fear of punishment and penalties.
- It is a safe place where the young and old alike are encouraged, exhorted, and cheered on as they stretch their faith in the power of the Kingdom.

## **The Culture of Honor Requires Change**

### **1) We must choose the Life of the Spirit over the life of the Flesh.**

- a) Let's cultivate an environment where the Holy Spirit is honored and His supernatural power is manifested.
- b) The Spirit of God is the Spirit of Christ dwelling inside of you.
  - i) Wisdom beyond the natural.
  - ii) Guidance beyond your expectation.
  - iii) Power beyond the earthly.
- c) Don't grieve the Holy Spirit.

Ephesians 4:28-30 Let the thief no longer steal, but rather let him labor, doing honest work with his own hands, so that he may have something to share with anyone in need. <sup>29</sup>Let no corrupting talk come out of your mouths, but only such as is good for building up, as fits the occasion, that it may give grace to those who hear. <sup>30</sup>And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption.

- i) We grieve Him by living for our own survival.
- ii) We grieve Him by refusing to become a resource and refusing to share our resources.
- iii) We grieve Him by the negative corrupt things that come out of mouths.
- iv) We grieve Him when He wants to give grace and we miss the opportunity

Great news! If He can be Grieved... He can be Pleased! Let's live to please Him.

### **2) We must choose to love Liberty over Law.**

- a) We are so easily offended by the weaknesses and sins of others.

i) We have lingered way too long in the dark tendencies of our old nature.

ii) We have become light!

Eph 5:8 "... at one time you were darkness, but now you are light in the Lord.  
Walk as children of light"

b) Don't be paralyzed by the fear of offenses.

i) This includes the fear of offending someone and/or the fear of being offended.

What if I break a rule and offend somebody? Will I will be rejected, embarrassed, scolded, gossiped over and marked for church discipline.

ii) Be aware of the disturbing power of living in an offense.

c) God loves Liberty not Law

Examples:

i) David – He used the power of his office to take another man's wife for his own sexual pleasure. Then after finding out she was pregnant, he had the man killed in battle to hide his sin. David deserved to die according to the law. But he lived and he was restored.

ii) The Prostitute caught in adultery

(1) John 8:4,5 Teacher, this woman has been caught in the act of adultery. <sup>5</sup> Now in the Law Moses commanded us to stone such women. So what do you say? (v. 7) And as they continued to ask him, he stood up and said to them, "Let him who is without sin among you be the first to throw a stone at her." (v.

(2) According to the law she deserved to die. But Jesus said, (v.10) Jesus stood up and said to her, "Woman, where are they? Has no one condemned you?" <sup>11</sup> She said, "No one, Lord." And Jesus said, "Neither do I condemn you; go, and from now on sin no more."

iii) Peter denied Christ 3 times!

(1) Judas betrayed Jesus once and he died!

(2) Peter denied him 3 times and he went on and lived a Spirit-filled life of power!

Why did these people get a different deal than they deserved? It was not the degree of their sin... Their sins were very offensive!

It was all about what they did after their sin. Repentance!

- David spent seven days on his face repenting. There was never another Bathsheba
- We believe the woman in the dirt repented, obeyed Jesus, and quit living in adultery.
- Peter repented recommitted to Christ. He never denied Jesus again.

We are not advocating a license for sin. But we are pushing for an environment which is a safe place where people refuse to withhold love and grace from those who need help repenting and being restored.

### 3) We must choose a mindset of Wealth over Poverty.

#### a) Wealth creates freedom

##### i) Many believers often equate wealth with riches.

(1) Danny Silk says, *“the idea that money makes someone wealthy is like suggesting that holding a football make someone an NFL quarterback.”*

(2) In the Kingdom, riches or money are external things while wealth is an internal reality:

(a) 2Corinthians 6:8-19 ESV “... We are treated as impostors, and yet are true; <sup>9</sup>as unknown, and yet well known; as dying, and behold, we live; as punished, and yet not killed; <sup>10</sup>as sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; as poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, yet possessing everything.”

(b) 2Corinthians 8:9 ESV “For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sake he became poor, so that you by his poverty might become rich.”

(c) 2Corinthians 9:10,11 ESV He who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will supply and multiply your seed for sowing and increase the harvest of your righteousness. <sup>11</sup>You will be enriched in every way to be generous in every way, which through us will produce thanksgiving to God.

“enriched” = “ploutizo”, to cause someone to become very wealthy in resources.

##### ii) We are of Abraham’s seed.

(1) In the New Testament, the apostle Paul clearly links us to the promise.

**Galatians 3:29 And if you are Christ’s, then you are Abraham’s offspring, heirs according to promise.**

Genesis 12:1-3 ESV Now the Lord said to Abram, "Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you. <sup>2</sup> And I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. <sup>3</sup> I will bless those who bless you, and him who dishonors you I will curse, and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.

b) Overcoming a poverty mentality

i) Poor people think differently than the wealthy.

- The poor think mainly about surviving.
- If they get some food, they have a tendency to hoard it.
- They believe in fate and feel powerless to change their environment.

ii) The wealthy:

- The wealthy are not worried about surviving when they wake up. They see themselves as being powerful change agents.
- The wealthy get out of bed in the morning to strengthen their connections with other world changers.
- The extremely wealthy do everything they can to teach their children how to handle, protect, and pass on the secrets of living in limitless freedom.

*("Culture of Honor" by Danny Silk)*

iii) In the Spirit, we are Wealthy!

- (1) We are not to be worried about surviving in a hostile world. The devil should be more worried about you when you wake up than you are worried about him.
- (2) Believers should invest their time in making connections with other world changers and we should teach our children to do the same.
- (3) Wealthy-minded believers will make sacrifices to be where God's anointing is pouring out and spend time there deepening their resources.
- (4) We should not be satisfied to merely "work" for God like a man working for wages. Let's believe God for the supernatural supply that promises to "*enrich in every way*" (2 Cor. 9:11).
- (5) A believer carrying a wealth mindset wakes up in faith, walks in faith, and sleeps dreaming about what God can do for others through his blessed life and his blessed family!