



RIGINS

Honoring our fathers

"After the flood, Noah began to cultivate the ground, and he planted a vineyard. One day he drank some wine he had made, and he became drunk and lay naked inside his tent. Ham, the father of Canaan, saw that his father was naked and went outside and told his brothers.

Then Shem and Japheth took a robe, held it over their shoulders, and backed into the tent to cover their father. As they did this, they looked the other way so they would not see him naked. When Noah woke up from his stupor, he learned what Ham, his youngest son, had done. Then he cursed Canaan, the son of Ham

Genesis 9:18-25

Honor is revealed when others are vulnerable (ex. David & Saul - 1 Samuel 24)

"In the same way, you who are younger, submit yourselves to your elders. All of you, clothe yourselves with humility... for 'God opposes the proud but shows favor to the humble.'"

1 Peter 5:5

Our words and actions expose our hearts

"...what comes out of the mouth proceeds from the heart, and this defiles a person."

Matthew 15:18

Honoring or dishonoring those in authority has consequences.

"Honor your father and your mother, so that you may live long in the land the Lord your God is giving you."

Exodus 20:12

"Let everyone be subject to the governing authorities... Consequently, whoever rebels against the authority is rebelling against what God has instituted, and those who do so will bring judgment on themselves."

Romans 13:1-2

Recognizing that our words have lasting impacts

"Do not be quick with your mouth, do not be hasty in your heart to utter anything before God. God is in heaven, and you are on earth, so let your words be few. As a dream comes when there are many cares, so the speech of a fool when there are many words... Do not let your mouth lead you into sin... Much dreaming and many words are meaningless. Therefore, stand in awe of God."

Ecclesiastes 5:1-5

"Reckless words pierce like a sword, but the tongue of the wise brings healing."

Proverbs 12:18

Building honor, integrity and healing with our words

1. Consider your words.

"Just say a simple yes or no, so that you will not sin and be condemned." James 5:12

2. Commit to your words.

"A man who makes a vow to the LORD or makes a pledge under oath must never break it. He must do exactly what he said he would do."

Numbers 30:2

3. Confess with your words.

"confess your sins to one another and pray for one another, that you may be healed."

James 5:16

When you make a vow to the Lord your God, be prompt in doing whatever you promised him. For the Lord your God demands that you promptly fulfill all your vows. If you don't, you will be guilty of sin. However, it is not a sin to refrain from making a vow. But once you voluntarily made a vow, be careful to do as you have said, for you have made a vow to the LORD your God."

Deuteronomy 23:21-23

Honor is tested not in someone's strength, but in their weakness. How we treat others in their moments of failure or vulnerability reveals whether we carry a spirit of honor or dishonor. True honor isn't earned by perfection—it's given out of reverence for the role God has entrusted to them in our lives.

Likewise, we will all have opportunities where we are made aware of someone else's sin and shame. If you haven't had the opportunity already, trust that it will come. When that happens, how will you respond? Like Ham, will you revel in the sin of others and gossip about their shortfalls? Or, like Shem and Japheth, will you do your best to help those who are in need? How we respond to the sin and shame of others is a good indication of our character. Ham's son is cursed for his response, while Shem and Japheth are blessed. Which one will you be?

Who may worship in your sanctuary, LORD?

Who may enter your presence on your holy hill?

² Those who lead blameless lives and do what is right,
speaking the truth from sincere hearts.

³ Those who refuse to gossip
or harm their neighbors
or speak evil of their friends.

⁴ Those who despise flagrant sinners,
and honor the faithful followers of the LORD,
and keep their promises even when it hurts. Psalm 15:1-4