



December 30, 2018

Today's Sermon: Living In the Favor of God

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Scripture: 1 Peter 5:5 (GNT)

1 Peter was predominantly written as an instruction manual for new Christians teaching Kingdom truths. The letter talks about many themes including:

1. What is salvation?
2. What does it mean to be born again?
3. How do we live holy before God but still be apart of the world?
4. Marriage
5. Suffering for following Jesus.
6. To live in humility.

In the same way you younger people must submit yourselves to your elders. And all of you must put on the apron of humility, to serve one another; for the scripture says, "God resists the proud, but shows favor to the humble."

1 Peter 5:5 (GNT)

But the grace that God gives is even stronger. As scripture says God resists the proud, but gives Grace to the humble.

James 4:6 (GNT)

He has no use for conceited people but shows favor to those who are humble.

Proverbs 3:34 GNT

HOW TO LIVE IN THE FAVOR OF GOD

1. We need to honor the leadership God has placed around us. (v.5a)

Submission is a choice. It's a daily decision to respect, honor and uphold the people God put in charge of us. Here's the hard part. We are even expected to honor those we don't agree with. Peter wrote this in a time when Emperor Nero ruled and killed Christians.



2. Be willing to serve those around us. (v 5b)

When we serve others we show that we have the Father's heart, valuing others before ourselves. Jesus showed us the ultimate example of humility being willing to wash his disciples feet. Pride will short change and kill your destiny, but humility will lead to the favor of God.

What areas in your life has God placed on your heart or made you aware of, but you felt like "It wasn't for me?" God makes you aware of a need so you can do something about it.

3. Acknowledge our total dependency on Him. (v 6)

Only when we learn to live in humility, does God invite us to cast our cares on Him; to give up the weight we were never meant to bear.