

How To Be Honored By God



Text: Luke 14:7-14

I. Introduction

- Going to church doesn't make you a Christian, just like standing in a garage doesn't make you an automobile
- A review of text – setting is home of a Pharisee

II. An Application Of Practical Psychology

- What do you think of show offs? Those who want to be the center of attention?
- You probably don't hold them in high regard
- Certain people continually need attention to elevate themselves above others
- Some worship services last a long time – “They last a long time because we need them to last a long time! You see, the world beats us down day after day, grinding God's image out of us making us feel lower than low. So every Sunday we worship for as long as it takes to build ourselves back up.” – Jeremiah Wright
- We find our self-esteem, not in the eyes of our neighbors, but from the knowledge that **God loves us**
- We find our sense of security from the knowledge that we were created for a purpose that is eternal in the heavens

III. The Saving Message Of The Cross

- Your status in society does not matter to God
- What Jesus cares about – are you generous? Are you willing to reach out to the needy
- There are thousands of Bible verses about the poor; the Bible is all about the poor
- There are many people making great sacrifices for Christ today, so I want to close with

IV. A Few Examples

- Some people have drastically restructured their lives in order to be able to share what they have with others – a woman gave away a \$3

million inheritance; a man tithes 60% of his salary with the goal to give away \$1 million

- Sharing your wealth in a sacrificial way won't buy your way into Heaven, but it will demonstrate that you have the heart of Christ
- The next time someone needs you, just be there; do what God calls you to do
- We are spiritual beings going through the temporary human experience

V. Conclusion

- God calls us to give of ourselves...even to give radically of ourselves...to those around us
- It will show who you belong to
- Do you belong to Christ?
- If not, you can when you accept Him as your Savior