



## SUNDAY SCHOOL ASSIGNMENT AND STUDY GUIDE

Sunday, October 9, 2022

Series: Honoring God | We Honor God's Pastors

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### Instructions for This Week

1. Take this week to study your Sunday School lesson prior to coming to class.
2. Do the homework assignments throughout this study guide.
3. Bring the study guide along with your answers to class.

See you there!

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### Key Verses

#### **1 Timothy 5:17**

Let the elders that rule well be counted worthy of double honour, especially they who labour in the word and doctrine.

#### **Jeremiah 3:15**

And I will give you pastors according to mine heart, which shall feed you with knowledge and understanding.

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## INTRODUCTION

As we studied in last week's lesson, the Local Church is God's designated place where people can come and get plugged into an environment and life system that produces Kingdom results (good success) in every aspect of their life and ministry.

This week's lesson is designed to give us greater understanding of how we honor God through honoring the Pastors he appoints over the Local Church and the blessing of their leadership.

## GOD GIVES US PASTORS FOR THE LOCAL CHURCH

Throughout the Bible, we see examples of God's approach to supplying the spiritual nurturing (guidance) and nourishment (preaching and teaching) for the Local Church through anointing and appointing Pastoral leadership. It is through the Pastoral leadership that God sends His vision for the Local Church. The vision impacts both the people within the Local Church and the souls that will be reached through the Local Church.

**Assignment:** How does God provide for the spiritual nurturing (guidance) and nourishment (preaching and teaching) for the Local Church? \_\_\_\_\_

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In John 21:15-17, Jesus charges Peter to "*feed my lambs*" (v15) and "*feed my sheep*" (v16-17). New Testament shepherds had a major responsibility for caring for and protecting their flock. The shepherds understood the enemy (fox or other predators), sought opportunities to destroy the flock.

In present times, Pastors in the Local Church provide spiritual covering for the congregation (flock). Remaining in alignment with and connected to the Senior Pastors through honor, respect and obedience, honors God and His system.

**Assignment:** In the New Testament, \_\_\_\_\_ provided protection for their \_\_\_\_\_. In present times, \_\_\_\_\_ provide \_\_\_\_\_ for \_\_\_\_\_.

## HONORING OUR PASTORS IS PART OF OUR CULTURE

### 1 Timothy 5:17

Let the elders that rule well be counted worthy of double honour, especially they who labour in the word and doctrine.

### Ephesians 6:2

Honour thy father and mother; which is the first commandment with promise;

**Hebrews 13:17**

Obey them that have the rule over you, and submit yourselves: for they watch for your souls, as they that must give account, that they may do it with joy, and not with grief: for that is unprofitable for you.

Our Senior Pastors not only give us God’s Word, they also provide us godly wisdom and instructions which help to increase our knowledge and understanding of God. Specifically, His principles, purpose and plans for our lives. As we grow and develop spiritually through submission/obedience and sacrifice, we become greater assets for the Kingdom and Local Church.

Applying God’s principles for honoring our Senior Pastors is evidenced in the Local Church culture through:

1. Attendance at Sunday School, services and events
2. Serving in ministry
3. Giving (provision for the Local Church – tithes, offering, special giving)
4. Standing, greeting and/or acknowledging the Senior Pastors when they enter a room, the sanctuary and in other church venues
5. Putting the Word in action (be doers of the Word of God)
6. Praying for the Senior Pastors and sowing financial blessings into their lives
7. Galvanizing ministry members and the congregation around support for Project Occupy
8. Evangelizing through inviting others out to services and events

**Assignment:** List 3 actions you’ve taken that align to the Local Church culture of honoring our Senior Pastors:

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_

Now, list 2 actions you are committing (*Making Quantum Moves*) to either start taking or improve in so that you can be better aligned to the Local Church culture of honoring our Senior Pastors.

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_

### **HONORING OUR SENIOR PASTORS BLESSES US**

The world's system has laws and rules of etiquette for honoring individuals of authority which we are required to obey. As Christians, we are training the world on what honor means through our reverence for God, our Senior Pastors and our church.

When we recognize that God is the GREATEST authority and we honor our Senior Pastors out of love and respect – understanding the blessing of good leadership – our lives exponentially shift. This shift is spiritual and manifests through changing the way we see, hear and act; the impact of which resonates in every area of our lives.

#### **Ephesians 4:11-15**

<sup>11</sup> And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers; <sup>12</sup> For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ: <sup>13</sup> Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ: <sup>14</sup> That we henceforth be no more children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men, and cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive; <sup>15</sup> But speaking the truth in love, may grow up into him in all things, which is the head, even Christ:

**Assignment:** Briefly describe a blessing you've experienced as a result of your connection to (honoring) your Senior Pastors. \_\_\_\_\_

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## **WE HONOR GOD'S PASTORS**

This has been a wonderful week celebrating our 27<sup>th</sup> Pastors and Church Anniversary! Harvest Life Church is *Making Quantum Moves* under the dynamic leadership of our very own Senior Pastors – Bishop Dukes and Pastor Deborah!

**Assignment:** Actively commit to honoring God by showing appreciation for our Senior Pastors. This includes taking advantage of the opportunity to sow a financial gift of love into their lives. As you think about the testimony you wrote in the assignment above, and the many more you don't have enough room on this paper to share, purpose in your heart to be like the one leper who came back to Jesus to glorify God for his blessing and say thank you.

Remember, there is a greater harvest behind every seed sown!