

Sermon Title: Graceful Community

Sermon Series: Gospel-Directed Community

Scripture: Ephesians 4:29-32, Romans 12:9-21

Speaker: Pastor Mike Barnhart



• **Gospel - Jesus lived, died, & rose to life for you.**

• **Love**

- **No Fear**
- **No Condemnation**
- **No Insecurity**
- **No Shame**

This all leads to Humble Honesty.

The Gospel also leads to Grace and Honor

Grace and Honor

God's Design

Brokenness

The Gospel

All you need to do is Repent and Believe.

Restore and Pursue

New Creation

What does it look like to put on my New Self in Christ?

Ephesians 4:29–32 ESV

29 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. 30 And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption. 31 Let all bitterness and wrath and anger and clamor and slander be put away from you, along with all malice. 32 Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you.

Because God loves, you must give _____ & _____.

“Grace” - God’s unconditional love.

“Honor” - to do that which is right & generous, motivated by love.

Ephesians 4:30 ESV

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Because God loves, you must give grace & honor.

Ephesians 4:29–32 ESV

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Your heart is either **God-Centered** or **Self-Centered**

How do you know if you have a ‘God-Centered’ heart or a ‘Self-Centered’ heart?

Romans 12:9–21 ESV

9 Let love be genuine. Abhor what is evil; hold fast to what is good. 10 Love one another with brotherly affection. Outdo one another in showing honor. 11 Do not be slothful in zeal, be fervent in spirit, serve the Lord. 12 Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer. 13 Contribute to the needs of the saints and seek to show hospitality.

14 Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. 15 Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep. 16 Live in harmony with one another. Do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly. Never be wise in your own sight. 17 Repay no one evil for evil, but give thought to do what is honorable in the sight of all. 18 If possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. 19 Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave it to the wrath of God, for it is written, "Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord." 20 To the contrary, "if your enemy is hungry, feed him; if he is thirsty, give him something to drink; for by so doing you will heap burning coals on his head." 21 Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

Romans 12:9 ESV

9 Let love be genuine. Abhor what is evil; hold fast to what is good.

Love without condition.

Romans 12:10 ESV

10 Love one another with brotherly affection. Outdo one another in showing honor.

Romans 12:11 ESV

11 Do not be slothful in zeal, be fervent in spirit, serve the Lord.

Romans 12:12 ESV

12 Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer.

Romans 12:13 ESV

13 Contribute to the needs of the saints and seek to show hospitality.

Romans 12:14 ESV

14 Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them.

Romans 12:15–16 ESV

15 Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep. 16 Live in harmony with one another. Do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly. Never be wise in your own sight.

Romans 12:17–21 ESV

17 Repay no one evil for evil, but give thought to do what is honorable in the sight of all. 18 If possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. 19 Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave it to the wrath of God, for it is written, "Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord." 20 To the contrary, "if your enemy is hungry, feed him; if he is thirsty, give him something to drink; for by so doing you will heap burning coals on his head." 21 Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

Trust God while giving honor.

What do verses 17-21 tell us about God?

1. God is the Judge

2. God is the Executor of Punishment

Ephesians 4:32 ESV

32 Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you.

Romans 12:18 ESV

18 If possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all.

A gospel-directed community is a graceful community.

Discussion Questions:

Pray together.

What is the Gospel?

How does the Gospel lead us to extend grace and honor to others?

Read Ephesians 4:29-32. According to this passage, what does giving grace and honor look like?

Ephesians 4:29–32 ESV

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Did you have a more God-centered or self-centered heart this week? Please explain.

Read Romans 12:9-21.

Romans 12:9-21 ESV

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Do not be slothful in zeal, be fervent in spirit,[a] serve the Lord. 12 Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer. 13 Contribute to the needs of the saints and seek to show hospitality.

14 Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. 15 Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep. 16 Live in harmony with one another. Do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly.[b] Never be wise in your own sight. 17 Repay no one evil for evil, but give thought to do what is honorable in the sight of all. 18 If possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. 19 Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave it[c] to the wrath of God, for it is written, "Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord." 20 To the contrary, "if your enemy is hungry, feed him; if he is thirsty, give him something to drink; for by so doing you will heap burning coals on his head." 21 Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

What does this passage tell you about God?

What does this passage tell you about giving grace and honor to others?

Is it challenging for you to trust God in giving grace and honor to others? If so, why?

How is God encouraging you to trust Him, so that you can give grace and honor to others?

Pray for one another.