

## Respect

Welcome to Harvest Community Church

Series: 10 X

**Text: 1 Thessalonians 4:11-12 (NLT)**

~ J.R Miller – *The only thing that walks back from the tomb with the mourners and refuses to be buried is the character of a man. This is true. What a man survives him. It can never be buried.*

Those who are 10 X are able to speak into the lives of others because they have gained their respect.

Respect is when people trust you because of your character, kindness, convictions, abilities, skills and follow through.

Daniel, Joseph, Moses were all able to be used by God because they gained the respect of people. Those who are 10 X grow in wisdom and stature with both God and Man. **Luke 2:52** The word stature means respect.

It is important to remember that just because you have stature or respect with people does not mean that you will not have enemies and those who will disrespect you. Daniel, Nehemiah, Moses and Jesus all had people that disagreed with them to the point of wanting them dead. What is true is that your respect will grow and increase as you interact with these people in a Godly manner, to be respected you must be respectable.

Respect is a matter of character, not a position, title, gender or role. Paul was a prisoner when he gained the respect of his jailers, Nehemiah was a cup bearer when he gained the favor of the king.

Deborah was a woman in a male dominated culture and she was used by God to bring rest to Israel for forty years. **Judges 4:4-8**

To understand respect better we will look at R-E-S-P-E-C-T

**R.** Respect God, yourself and others around you. Gaining the respect of others always begins with your honor and fear of God. Deborah was first and foremost a prophet of God. She was a woman of God. People knew that she had a reverence for something beyond herself. Because of that people came to her and trusted her to settle disputes and problems.

### **Judges 4:5**

When she called for people, they came. When she summoned Barak, he responded. A key indicator of how people respect you is how they respond to you. When he did come, she was quick to empower him by making him the commander of Israel's armies. A person of respect has respect for the abilities and giftings of others.

Deborah truly cared for her people. **Judges 5:9** People will respect you when they know that you truly care about them. – “People don't care how much you know, until they know how much you care.” Deborah had a heart for people. Those who are 10 X truly care about others.

- E. **Exceed** the expectations of others. **Judges 5:7** Those who are 10 X go the extra mile. They fight for victory and work through the difficult problems. **Judges 4:8-9** Those who are 10 X don't care for people from the sidelines they get involved and walk with people through the challenges.
- S. **Stand** firm on your convictions. When Barak was feeling uncertain of victory, Deborah never backed down and went with them. She put her "money where her mouth was". 10X people are respected because they stand by their convictions. **Daniel 1:8, Daniel 6:10** Daniel never hid his convictions, he lived them with the "**windows**" wide open. 10X people live their convictions without apology or compromise.
- P. **Possess** uncommon security and maturity. While Deborah was used by God so were others. She didn't grab all the glory and credit for herself. She praised everyone who was part of the victory. **Judges 5:18, 24-27** She not only praised them but celebrated them in detail of what they did. Can you imagine how much more Saul would have been respected if he had celebrated David's victories instead of being jealous and insecure.
- E. **Experience** personal victories and success. Before Deborah led people into battle, she was a prophetess and a judge. Before David led armies into battle he defeated lions, bears and giants. --- Would you want a money manager right out of training and college or one who had already had a portfolio worth millions? You cannot take people where you have not been yourself. Remember Moses spent 40 years on the backside of the desert before he led Israel for 40 years in the wilderness. – Respect is earned not given.
- C. **Contribute** to the success of others. When Deborah called people to battle, she did three key things:
  - She gave them a **commander**. She empowered someone to be in charge.
  - She gave them **resources**. She called up 10,000 warriors.
  - She gave them **encouragement**. She gave a WORD from the Lord that they would win. **Judges 4:14**
- T. **Think** ahead of others. Deborah gave a battle plan, how to attack and when. Joseph thought up a **strategy** to fight off the effects of a seven-year drought. **Genesis 41:33-36, 47-49, 55-57** Joseph was respected because he had a plan, he followed through, and he helped others. Joseph wasn't just a dreamer and an interpreter of dreams, he was respected because he was an **implementer**. Martin Luther King Jr didn't just talk about the dream he had, he put action behind it. Harriet Tubman was poor and had a brain injury but she **led** people to freedom in the underground railroad.

People of respect don't just talk to others about things they **go** with them. This is what true discipleship looks like.