

For Insight Call 1-77H-ONO-RGOD
Exodus 3:11-12

Memory Verse
Mark 12:29-31

“The most important one,” answered Jesus, “is this: ‘Hear, O Israel, the Lord our God, the Lord is one. Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength.’ The second is this: ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’ There is no commandment greater than these.”

The Hebrew word that is most often translated “honor” has as its root a word that translates “heavily weighted.” When scripture calls us to honor someone – as in the fifth commandment, “Honor your Father and your Mother” – we are being asked to place a great deal of our weight on that person. We are being told they can take the weight and we need the firmness of their foundation to rest and rebuild.

Experience has taught us that humans and human institutions do not consistently hold up under our weight of expectations, which explains our reluctance to put our weight on God and His two ordained institutions, family and church. After all, these institutions are populated by people and people are the ones who have shown us they cannot bear our weight. So why honor anyone? We feel safer not putting our weight on anyone much less family or church so we will not be let down or dropped when we are the most vulnerable. But here is the problem. When we choose not to put our weight on God’s institutions (and by extension God Himself) we are choosing to put our weight on our own institutions. Rather than honor God, Family and Church, we choose to honor family, work and education – or work, sports and family – or appearance, money management, and friendships. They cannot hold our weight but we know that going in so we don’t put all our weight on them and when they look like they are about to give way we bolt – and if we bolt in time we suffer less than if we get caught in the collapse. So here is your first Insight from your call to **1-77H-ONO-RGOD**.

God honors those who first honor Him

1 Samuel 2:30 “Therefore the LORD, the God of Israel, declares: ‘I promised that your house and your father’s house would minister before me forever.’ But now the LORD declares: ‘Far be it from me! Those who honor me I will honor, but those who despise me will be disdained.

It is true that God has prepared a way for us even though we did not know or want what He had prepared. When you feel you are far from God it is not because God has left you but that you have left Him. Even though you have walked away from Him He has stayed close to you so that when you choose to stop putting your weight on yourself and the ways of a fallen world, He will be right there for you to choose to lean on Him.

What are His credentials? Why should we put our weight on him? Well, John the When John was in pre-school and believed in God as only the truly innocent can he was looking out the window of the car as his mother navigated the slushy roads on a grey and cold Indiana afternoon and asked, “Mom can you see God?” Judi, with adult wisdom, explained “No, Johnny, God is invisible.” At that moment a sunbeam struggled to make itself seen through the murky haze as John observed, “Sometimes I feel like I do.”

We give God honor each time we do what is right just because it is right and God says, "This is my sign to you...when you have done what is right you will have done what is right."

Revelator tells us in **Revelation 4:11** "**You are worthy, our Lord and God, to receive glory and honor and power, for you created all things, and by your will they were created and have their being.**"

I don't know about you but if I can have the person who made my car come to my house and fix my car I expect to be much happier with the outcome.

Exodus 3:11-12

11But Moses said to God, "Who am I that I should go to Pharaoh and bring the Israelites out of Egypt?" 12And God said, "I will be with you. And this will be the sign to you that it is I who have sent you: When you have brought the people out of Egypt, you will worship God on this mountain."

There is a story to the effect that a certain society in South Africa once wrote to David Livingstone, the well-known Scottish medical missionary and explorer, "Have you found a good road to where you are? If so, we want to know how to send other men to join you."

Livingstone replied, "If you have men who will come ONLY if they know there is a good road, I don't want them. I want men who will come, even if there is no road at all."

If you will only go if the way is clear and well marked, God does not want you.

Honor God His Way Not Mine

Honor God with my body

1 Corinthians 6:18-20 Flee from sexual immorality. All other sins a man commits are outside his body, but he who sins sexually sins against his own body. Do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit, who is in you, whom you have received from God? You are not your own; you were bought at a price. Therefore honor God with your body.

Honor God with my mind

Romans 12:1-3 (NIV) 1Therefore, I urge you, brothers, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God—this is your spiritual act of worship. 2Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will. 3For by the grace given me I say to every one of you: Do not think of yourself more highly than you ought, but rather think of yourself with sober judgment, in accordance with the measure of faith God has given you.

Shadowlands portrays the joy and pain of the relationship between C. S. Lewis and American writer Joy Gresham. A growing friendship led to a marriage of convenience. The Oxford professor wed the single mother in a secret, civil ceremony so that Joy could gain English citizenship. Eventually it was discovered that Joy had terminal cancer, and Lewis realized his love for her.

Joy's cancer went into temporary remission, and for a season she and Lewis experienced the depth of committed Christian love. During this time, an Anglican priest talked with

Lewis about prayer. In their conversation, we hear a mature description of how prayer works.

The Priest said, "I know how hard you've been praying. And now God is answering your prayer."

Lewis responded, "That's not why I pray, Harry. I pray because I can't help myself. I pray because I'm helpless. I pray...I pray because the need flows out of me all the time...waking and sleeping. It doesn't change God, it changes me."

Elapsed time: From the opening credit, 01:29:35 to 01:30:15

Content: Rated PG

Citation: Shadowlands, (Savoy Pictures, 1993) written by William Nicholson, directed by Richard Attenborough; submitted by Greg Asimakoupoulos and Doug Scott, Naperville, Illinois

Honor God with my church service

Romans 12:9-13

Love must be sincere. Hate what is evil; cling to what is good. Be devoted to one another in brotherly love. Honor one another above yourselves. Never be lacking in zeal, but keep your spiritual fervor, serving the Lord. Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer. Share with God's people who are in need. Practice hospitality.

1 Corinthians 13:4-7

4Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. 5It is not rude, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. 6Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. 7It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres.

1 Corinthians 13:4-7

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_____	is kind
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_____	always protects
_____	always trusts
_____	always hopes
_____	always preservers

Nearly 200 years ago there were two Scottish brothers named John and David Livingstone. John had set his mind on making money and becoming wealthy, and he did.

But under his name in an old edition of the "Encyclopaedia Britannica" John Livingstone is listed simply as "the brother of David Livingstone."

And who was David Livingstone? While John had dedicated himself to making money, David had knelt and prayed. Surrendering himself to Christ, he resolved, "I will place no value on anything I have or possess unless it is in relationship to the Kingdom of God." The inscription over his burial place in Westminster Abbey reads, "For thirty years his life was spent in an unwearied effort to evangelize."

(1813-1873), Scottish missionary and physician, who spent half his life exploring southern and central Africa. In addition to adding greatly to Europe's knowledge of the continent's geography, he heightened Western awareness of Africa and stimulated Christian missionary activity there.

On his 59th birthday David Livingstone wrote, "My Jesus, my King, my Life, my All; I again dedicate my whole self to Thee."

Citation: Billy Graham in Breakfast with Billy Graham. Christianity Today, Vol. 41, no. 6.