

The Connection



HOPE
CHURCH | RALEIGH
• A Congregation of the Evangelical Presbyterian Church—EPC •
WORSHIP. GROW. SERVE.

A Weekly Online Newsletter: Edition 887

May 19, 2026

Praise the Lord! How blessed is the man who fears the Lord, who greatly delights in His commandments. His descendants will be mighty on earth; the generation of the upright will be blessed...He will not fear evil tidings; his heart is steadfast, trusting in the Lord. His heart is upheld, he will not fear, until he looks with satisfaction on his adversaries. He has given freely to the poor; his righteousness endures forever; his horn will be exalted in honor.
(cf. Ps. 112:1-2, 7-9 MEV)

Honor. It is not a word used much these days. Respect is another term that has fallen into disuse, unless one is desiring others to “respect” them, their opinions, their views, their actions, etc. These words seemingly have been sacrificed at the altar of individualism and perceived rights. Yet, despite the best efforts of those who do not wish for us to remember honor and respect, the concepts and truths attached are still very present.

Indeed, I will go so far as to say if honor is the train, respect is the caboose. Where honor goes, respect is in its shadow. By the same token, where honor is not present, neither will there be respect.

The Bible has much to say about “*honor*” because honor is at the core of all Scriptural teaching. The Ten Commandments speak of honor, if not in the actual use of the word, in the concept that is clearly there. God declares “*Thou shalt not have any other gods before Me*”. In other words, honor the Lord above and alone. He says, “*Thou shalt not make any graven images*”, meaning not to dishonor the unseen God by creating a replica that can be seen and subsequently worshiped. And, then the obvious, “*Honor thy father and thy mother*”, which then requires us to give due reverence to our parents, obeying them in our youth, and providing for them in their old age. The use of “*honor*” by God is multidimensional in its application.

Also, in the text above, God honors the one who lives unto Him a life focused on following His teachings and the direction of His Spirit (i.e. “*one who fears the Lord*”). This honor is reflected in God’s special dealings with such an individual, separating him/her from the rest by pouring down His blessings upon that person. His honor is intended to set that individual apart to show the results of living life in subjection to God.

By the same token, we should also see how important it is to honor the Lord as well. We do this, as obviously shown in the Scripture above, by living in obedience to His holy will for us. However, we also honor Him by our attitudes toward others, our treatment of the poor and the disadvantaged, and how we shine forth His unconditional love to our fellow man. We can also honor Him in how we appear before Him in worship, both in attitude and adornment, in our decorum and dress. Are we preparing ourselves to come before the King or are we just going over to a friend’s house?

Not to honor is dishonor which, as stated above, leads inevitably to disrespect. Honor/dishonor is in the heart; respect/disrespect in the actions. If we seek to be honored, we must first be honorable. If we are to be honorable, we need to honor that/who which deserves to be honored.

Therefore, according to our Scripture passage, to be honored by God begins with having an attitude of honor toward God, as shown in our lives as we follow His Word and His Spirit. This perspective then will be seen in the respect for God we show in how we approach Him in our prayers, our worship and our outward array. God is always more than worthy of such a response of honor and respect by His people.

Pastor Chris

HOPE Calendar

Wednesday, May 20th

Supper at 6:15 pm

At 7 pm the Study of the Church and the Last Days, followed by Prayer

Sunday, May 24th

Pentecost Sunday
Worship Team Practice
@ 8:30 am

Worship @ 10:00 am
11:15 am Fellowship
11:30 am Sunday School/
Pastor's AfterChat

Wednesday, May 27th

Supper at 6:15 pm

At 7 pm the Study of the Church and the Last Days, followed by Prayer

Helping Hands Ministries for May 24, 2026

Live Streaming

Diane Williams

Soundboard

Rich Williams

ProPresenter

Elizabeth Floyd

Communion Preparation

Elizabeth Floyd

Nursery

Al Floyd

Scripture Reading and Communion

Assistant

Franklin Johnston

Prayer Support

Becky Hale

Giving to the Ministry of HOPE:

Online via QR Code



Or on our website:

www.hopechurchraleigh.org

or by check made out to:

"Hope Church Raleigh" and dropped
in plate during Communion

OPPORTUNITIES TO GROW

Women of HOPE

Meetings generally at HOPE on the
second and fourth Saturdays
every month from 10 am to Noon.

Next Meeting: May 23rd
at HOPE Church (with Bible study
—See note below)

Raleigh Dream Center Food Pantry

"Food of the Month"

Cereals and Nonperishable Breakfast
Foods

The collection bin is in the foyer

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(rf. **Ps. 112:1, 9** MEV)

OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE

TLC Devotion

On Wed. May 27th at 11 am
@ TLC

HOPE Meal Ministry

Take a meal from the freezer if
needed for you or someone else.

Saturday, May 23rd, 2026 @ 10 am

Come join the Women of HOPE as they
continue in their study based on the book,

Becoming a Woman of Grace,
by Cynthia Heald

If interested, contact Alice Kinard
for further details.

Prayer Requests:

Jordan Stevens, Kathy Herriman,
Gene and Becky Hale, Erin's parents
& brother, Burton, Pastor Chris & Lori
King and Jimmy King, Sandi
Underwood family, Donna (Joan's
friend), Patty Moyer & son, Brandon,
Jerry Kinard, Alice Kinard (transplant
possibilities), Tom & Donna Williams,
Ron Clifton, Phil Parton, Krishana,
Sam, Rachel & children, Joan
Rollinson, Dianne Reinoso, Cindy,
Barbara (stroke), HOPE Children &
Youth ministries, Peggy Karpenske,
Claudia in Idaho, Dave & Dot Geil,
Corbin Broome, Mallory family, Carol
and Colin, Tommy, Skip, Loretta,
Joan Summers, Janice Worthington,
Donna Abel, Pastor Marty & Terry
Duffell, Laura Bradshaw (stroke
recovery), Tom Klein, Rev. Rob
Westlund (shingles), EPC
missionaries; all First Responders;
future plans & growth (spiritual &
numerical) for HOPE Church Raleigh!

Next Sunday's Sermon:

Growing in Fellowship
by Following His Spirit
(rf. Acts 2:1-11, 37-47)

To prepare for next Sunday, click on the
link and be blessed!

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?
v=M5keJHZdWYM&list=RDM5keJHZdWY
M&start_radio=1](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=M5keJHZdWYM&list=RDM5keJHZdWYM&start_radio=1)

SERVING OPPORTUNITIES

Meals for Wednesday Night Suppers
Sound Board Volunteers
Nursery Helpers



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www.facebook.com/HOPEChurchRaleigh

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YouTube.com (type "HOPE Church Raleigh"
in the search box)