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# YOU AND YOUR PASTOR

HOW TO RELATE TO YOUR MAN OR WOMAN OF GOD

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EDMUND SACKEY-BROWN

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## DEDICATION

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**T**his book is dedicated to Pastor Carlos Munoz and Pastor Mrs. Maria Fernanda Barrera and all the members of our Church, Fuego de lo Alto - Casa de Adoracion in Cali, Colombia, South America for the love and honour they have expressed towards me over the years.



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Pastors after God's heart are an endangered species in our time and I welcome this timely contribution by Rev. (Dr) Edmund Sackey-Brown to save the species before they become extinct.

In this volume, he delicately navigates with skill and deep passion, the very difficult relationship between Pastors and the people they are called to serve.

He makes the biblical case for the symbiotic relationship between the Pastor and his/her flock and demonstrates how they both need and rely on each other to fulfill their dreams and aspirations.

Often, the relationship runs into trouble when there is a lack of appreciation of the roles and responsibilities on either side, leading to frustration and a lack of fulfillment.

In this generation, whether rightly or wrongly, Pastors are not held in such high esteem, and it is heart-warming to see that Rev. (Dr) Sackey-Brown is on a mission to put back the issue of honouring pastors firmly on the agenda.

For most Pastors, this book will give a voice to what they feel and know to be true but are either unable or unwilling to verbalise, and congregation members will find it an eye-opener to the principles and blessings that exude from appreciating and keeping the right relationship with the Pastor.

I recommend this masterpiece to every believer, in the knowledge that it will go a long way to repair the relationship between the pulpit and the pew, debunk sincerely held misconceptions about Pastors and inspire us all to pursue the win-win situation that this healthy relationship holds for both parties.

It is time to save the endangered species and “You and your Pastor” is here to do just that.

God richly bless you.

Pastor Emmanuel Tetteh  
(Pastor Living Streams London, England.)

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PART ONE

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## THE IMPORTANCE OF HONOUR

**T**he main purpose of this book is to bring awareness of God's divine principle of honour to His servants whom He has appointed to shepherd and lead His flock.

First Thessalonians 5:12-13 says, "And we beseech you, brethren, to know them which labour among you, and are over you in the Lord, and admonish you; And to esteem them very highly in love for their work's sake."

First Timothy 5:17 says, "Let the elders that rule well be counted worthy of double honour, especially they who labour in the word and doctrine."

To honour means to give public esteem, it is showing of merited respect and recognition. It is a divine principle.

In the dictionary, honour has a twofold definition. It is defined as both a noun and a tentative verb. As a noun, it refers to high respect, esteem, or privilege. As a tentative verb, it means to regard with great respect. Honour as a verb is an action word, so you cannot just say, "I honour you," and think that is enough; action is required. Therefore you could say that to honour someone or something is an action whereby value or esteem is expressed so as to elevate the person, the place, position, worth, or condition of the recipient. If someone is to be honoured but the honour is not given or acted upon, then the honour becomes simply an empty word or a worthless title.

Honour is a biblical principle. In the Ten Commandments, you will notice that God's word is quite specific concerning our need to honour our parents. We are also taught in Scripture to honour those in positions of authority and responsibility over us including our parents, pastors, teachers, and government representatives.

Hebrews 13:1-7 says, "Let every soul be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except God, and the authorities that exist are appointed by God. Therefore,

whoever resists the authority resists the ordinance of God, and those who resist will bring judgment on themselves. For rulers are not a terror to good works, but to evil. Do you want to be unafraid of the authority? Do what is good, and you will have praise from the same. For he is God's minister to you for good. But if you do evil, be afraid; for he does not bear the sword in vain; for he is God's minister, an avenger to execute wrath on him who practices evil. Therefore you must be subject, not only because of wrath but also for conscience' sake. For because of this you also pay taxes, for they are God's ministers attending continually to this very thing. Render therefore to all their due: taxes to whom taxes are due, customs to whom customs, fear to whom fear, honour to whom honour."

There is a significant benefit and also consequences to what or whom you honour in life. When we do not show honour with our actions, it is dishonour. If honour is taken lightly, if it is only a lip service or empty words, and it lacks substance or action, then it's dishonouring. Honour is not complete without action. The way to honour is to remember and show gratitude to those we deem important

and valuable in our life.

What or who do you take lightly? What or whom carries weight with you? Who do you deem important and valuable in your life? Remember: What you honour you feed, and it will grow in your life, good or bad, right or wrong.

Honouring your parents, for example, brings long life according to Ephesians 6:2-3. And honouring your pastor has loads of benefits money cannot buy. Matthew 10:41 states, “He that receiveth a prophet in the name of a prophet shall receive a prophet’s reward; and he that receiveth a righteous man in the name of a righteous man shall receive a righteous man’s reward.”

*“For whosoever shall give you a cup of water to drink in my name, because ye belong to Christ, verily I say unto you, he shall not lose his reward”*

(Mark 9:41).

Are you a person who shows honour to your

man or woman of God? Would you like to be this type of person? Whether you already believe in giving honour to your man or woman of God, or you take lightly what is worthy of honour, I trust that this book will help you to realise what the workings and purpose of honour are and enable you to choose who and what to honour in your life. When you honour others and treat them with kindness, it is literally as though you are doing the same for God.

*“A son honours his father, and a slave his master. If I am a father, where is the honour due me? If I am a master, where is the respect due me? says the Lord Almighty”*

(Malachi 1:6).