# Godly Relationships

## Yielded/Convinced

- Are we <u>TENDER and WILLING</u> to honor Gods' Word in our lives in ALL our relationships.
- Do I love Him, <u>and trust His love for me</u> to bring and sustain every relationship that I will have throughout my life.

IF SO,

We reap all His benefits toward us.

# LOVE, LOVE, LOVE

Galatians 5:6 - Faith Worketh By Love.

- The More you receive of his love & fall in love in LOVE with Him, the more you will honor His Word.
- It's Always Love first, and then comes the believing.
- The Grace way is imperative for everything, especially Healthy Relationships.

### God's Promises Give Us:

- Healthy Relationships that enhance you
- Best Beyond what you ever thought
- Strong They weather through the storms
- <u>Lasting</u> With his love they never fail or tire

# **RELATIONSHIPS**

# **Bad Relationships**

Not Isolated Events - Symptomatic

• Galatians 5:9: A little leaven leaven's the WHOLE lump

Bad habits eventually surface in ALL relationships

# COUPLE

- C
- O
- U
- P
- - E

2

PEOPLE

# C=Close

#### In order to have good Godly relationships:

We must desire to be close. Love one another.

Understand the only way we truly will be close.

Value, Appreciate, & Nurture relationships to stay close.

# CLOSE = Oneness in Christ

2 Cor. 6:14:

Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers.

"I know we know this because of His life in us, but do we love & respect the Lord to honor & yield to this Truth?"

# EVERY RELATIONSHIP IS SUBJECT TO OUR RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD

## Matthew 10:36-39

Anyone who loves their father or mother more than me is not worthy of me; anyone who loves their son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me.

Whoever does not take up their cross and follow me is not worthy of me.

Whoever finds their life will lose it, and whoever loses their life for my sake will find it.

# (It Has All your Answers)

#### 2 Timothy 2:15:

Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.

## THE WORD IS YOUR LIFE

- Philippians 1:27
- Only let your conversation be as it becometh the gospel of Christ.

### **ONLY LET YOUR LIFE BE THE GOSPEL**

- Romans 1:16
- I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believes.

# 2<sup>nd</sup> Principle for Closeness

- Matthew 18:20
- Where two or three are gathered together
   IN MY NAME, there am I in the midst of them.
- If who you are with is not comfortable with or does not love the name JESUS <u>you are with the wrong</u> <u>person.</u>
- If you are not fellowshipping in the name JESUS with who you are with you are compromising.

### SEARCH ME O GOD:

- 1) Does our love and respect for the Lord cause us to want Him 1<sup>st</sup> in every relationship? We saw Samson's end, Solomon's end, & then we Isaac's treasure & David's bond w/ Jonathan.
- 2) Am I seeking to be equally yoked w/ believers, or is the enemy influencing whom I choose?
- 3) Are all my relationships in the name of Jesus or just some, ones I choose?
- 4) If so am I willing to allow God to change my thinking. Will I stand for Him first in **ALL** my relationships?

# HOW?

- -Fall In Love With Him.
- Give your heart away to <u>HIM FIRST</u>, before we give our hearts away to someone else.
- -We need to be continually hearing the Word, praying, and gathering with those that follow Christ.
- -We either rise to the heights of those around us, or sink to the depths.
- -Choose Wisely, choose with a convicted & convinced heart. Ask God to make you CARE.

# O=Open

### **Proverbs 18:24:**

A man that hath friends <u>MUST</u> show Himself friendly.

God help us to always be open and flowing with the Love of God.

### Psalm 139:14:

I will praise thee: for I am fearfully and wonderfully made.

You were made by and for Him.

You were made to need Him.

You were made for His good pleasure.

# Stop being SELF CONSCIENCE

- Be who you are in Christ.
- Let people accept you for who you are in Christ.
- You In Christ = ALL Glorious

# Be Open & Not Closed Off COMMUNICATE!!!!!!

- But, Communicate In:
- Love
- Kindness
- Sincerity
- Soft Words

This makes your partner OPEN TOO.

# Psalm 141:3 Lord Set a Watch before my Mouth

- James 1:19:
- Slow to speak & Swift to Hear
- Luke 6:45:
- A good man out of the good treasure of his heart bringeth forth that which is good; and an evil man out of the evil treasure of his heart bringeth forth that which is evil: for of the abundance of the heart his mouth speaketh.

# How can this change Happen in Me?

- We Must Be Open/Sincere with God, & embrace Him.
- Psalm 139: 2:
- Thou knowest my downsetting and mine uprising, thou understandest my thought afar off.
- Psalm 139: 23 & 24:
- Search me, O God, and know my heart: try me, and know my thoughts: And see if there be any wicked way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting.

# **WCTIM**

Fight the Good Fight of Faith

## SEARCH ME O LORD

1) Do we show ourselves friendly?

Are we **Porcupines or Easy to Love?** 

- 2) How do I communicate?
- Is it a One Way Street, or the abundance of the Sea of Galilee?
- Am I always complaining and criticizing?
- Is the abundance of my heart consistent in all my relationships?

# **U=UNDERSTANDING**

Recognizing the needs of your partner

- Tenderness to understand Each Other's Needs:
- David & Jonathan very complex relationship given Jonathan's Dad, King Saul.

## VITAL TO BE TENDER

- I Peter 3: 8&9:
- Finally, be ye all of one mind, having compassion one of another, love as brethren, be pitiful, be courteous:
- Not rendering evil for evil, or railing for railing: but contrariwise blessing; knowing that ye are thereunto called, that ye should inherit a blessing.

## **Good Listeners**

- Yes, be a GOOD LISTENER and continue to even be a BETTER LISTENER.
- HOW?
- CARE True friends care about the others interests
- Be PATIENCE
- TAKE TIME

One way we Know Jesus cares, He hears us.

# Compassion

- Understanding is knowing we <u>ALL are flesh/mankind</u>.
- That means we are weak, frail, and even prone to fail.

### Great Relationships have **SPIRITUAL participants**:

#### Galatians 6:1&2:

- Brethren, if a man be overtaken in a fault, ye which are spiritual, restore such an one in the spirit of meekness; considering thyself, lest thou also be tempted.
- Bear ye one another's burden's.

- Don't' try to change someone yourself
- Let God do all the molding & making after His will.
- Let the Love of God for you, and for your friend convict you to be longsuffering and forbearing.

## What Does this DO?

### Makes you Like Christ:

# FORGIVING

Forgiveness is God's Love & Wisdom in action in us.

## **Understand your place**

### God is very clear about every relationship.

- Husband & Wife = Love & Respect
- Parent & Child = No Wrath & Honor/Obey
- Boss & Employee = Just/Fair & Unto God/Heartily
- Neighbor's=Love & Friend's=Loyal & Elder's=Honor

# Understanding Liberties in Relationships

- I Corinthians 8:9:
- But take heed lest by any means this liberty of yours become a stumblingblock to them that are weak.
- Don't let your freedoms hurt your Brother.

Be Wise & Be Loving.

## SEARCH ME O GOD

- So are we good listeners. Am I more interested in me than others?
- Are we aware of our partners needs?
- Am I a good communicator? Patient, Kind, Loving.
- Do we take the time or are we short w/ one another?
- Am I taking the place in my home, my relationships, that God desires?

# P = PEACE (Seek Peace)

#### Isaiah 26:3:

 Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on thee: because he trusteth in thee.

#### Philippians 4: 6 & 7:

 Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God.

And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.

# BE SPIRITUAL

### • Walk in the Spirit:

- Love the Word, the Truth. Let it live through you.
- Walk in Love

 Be a <u>RESTORER</u> not a destroyer. Build up one another, not tear one another down.

### PEACE TESTIMONY

- Forgiving, gracious
- Longsuffering, be patient
- Gentle, love through difficult times
- Self Control, consistent, tempered
- Quick to apologize, 'I'm sorry" & "I was wrong"

# **GOLDEN NUGGETS**

- Ephesians 4:32:
- And be ye kind one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ's sake hath forgiven you.

### ALWAYS SEE CHRIST ON THE CROSS FOR YOU

- Proverbs 15:1: A soft answer turns away wrath
- Ephesians 4:26: Let not the sun go down upon your wrath

- Peace <u>IS NOT</u> peace with man.
- Peace <u>IS</u> PEACE WITH GOD
- The PEACE OF GOD, "obeying the Word"

Not out of duty but love for Him

 The PEACE the passes all understanding that keeps our hearts & minds through all things. Thankful you yielded

# Believing Gods' Word

#### Romans 8:28:

 And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose.

 He's Got a perfect <u>ETERNAL GLORY PLAN</u> for every event of your life.

# Faith in God's faithful love makes us TENDER

• When we are tender to the Word of God:

We do not focus on ourselves

We let God's love reign

We realize but for the grace of God there go I

## SEARCH ME O GOD

- Am I Spiritual? Is my heart motivated to restore, or bring judgment or condemnation?
- Am I tender? Do I understand man is weak? Am I Tender to God's Word, & willing to be longsuffering with Christ.
- Is there someone I still have not forgiven?
   And if you still remember it then you still haven't forgiven.
   If so, I Am rejecting His perfect love. I therefore am bitter, proud and self consumed. I Need to See the Cross.
- When is the last time I said "I'm sorry"? More than a week you have a problem. You haven't always been right or right in heart, apologies need to be forth coming.

# L=LOYALTY

FAITHFULNESS

CONSISTENCY

PASSION

# **Faithfulness**

- 2 Timothy 2:13:
- If we believe not, yet he abideth faithful: he cannot deny himself.
- Christ in us makes us loyal & faithful friends, spouses, family. No confidence in flesh but in Christ in you.
- As this verse implies, even when we are mistreated by others we still love one another, forgive, and restore because of the love of God in us.

# Consistency

- Proverbs 17:17:
- A friend loveth at all times.
- Not just when it's convenient or when you feel like it.
- Hebrews 13:8:
- Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and to day, and forever.
- The love of Christ working in us never changes.

# **Passion**

- Ephesians 5:25:
- Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it.

- Pray for this power.
- Ask God to make you each more beautiful to one another.

# Christ In You

- Perceives the Value in one another
- Causes you to treasure one another
- Encourages you to defend the wealth of the relationship

This is all ONLY possible when Christ is the first love relationship above all.

## STOP ENABLING

#### Proverbs 27:6:

Better are the wounds of a friend than the flattering words of an enemy.

## **ALWAYS Stand for the TRUTH!!!**

DON'T COMPROMISE

## Luke 6:26:

Woe (beware) when all men speak well of you.

## SEARCH ME O GOD

- Am I consistent with others? Are my relationships predicated on my mood?
- How thankful & appreciative am I for the relationships that God has given me?
- Do I love at all times? Only as you treat me?
- Do I love others with the love of Christ. The same love of Christ's love for the church?
- If so then the proof, I make a stand for the Word in all my relationships.
- Am I bold in giving the Word to my friends and loved ones?
- Do I just try to fit in with every crowd. Am I a crowd pleaser or a God pleaser?

# E= ESTEEM

Esteem means to <u>RESPECT & HONOR</u>

- Esteem God By:
- Respect & Honor yourself
- Respect & Honor the other person

## We are God's Vessel's

Respect yourself by honoring who you are to God.

- I Corinthians 6:19 & 20:
- What? know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own? For ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's.

# My Christian friend/spouse is God's Vessel

#### Romans 12:10:

- Be devoted to one another in love. Honor one another above yourselves.
- Love one another with brotherly affection; outdo one another in showing honor.

#### • I Corinthians 13:5:

- Love seeketh not her own.
- Love IS NOT self seeking. Love DOES NOT insist on it's own way.

# What Does ESTEEM Look Like?

- Complement One another. Continue on in always showing appreciation and gratitude.
- I Corinthians 7:3: Husbands & Wives constantly bestow on each other acts of loving kindness.
- Show interest & participate in things that are important to the other. Don't let it be just be one-sided.
- Words of loving kindness. Let "I Love you be something heard, shown, & known every day in your home.

# Protect and Defend your Relationships

- Ecclesiastes 4:9&10:
- Two are better than one. For if they fall, one will lift up his companion.
- Proverbs 31:10:
- A virtuous woman is worth far more than rubies.
- Why is a good man desired? Psalms 37:23 Because His steps are ordered of God and God delights in him.
- Proverbs :15:20:
- A wise son makes a father glad.

# Esteeming our Fellowship

- One of greatest signs or evidence that a person is loving the appearing of the Lord.....
- Hebrews 10: 24 & 25: And let us consider one another to provoke unto love and to good works: Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another. and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching.
- I believe we are discovering as we go out from among the camp our fellowship becomes more & more only with ones that running for God's best. Honestly who am I closest too in this life? the ones in this room.

# **HOW CLOSE?**

So close we are made out of one piece of beaten gold the covering of the ark, the mercy seat; those two Cherubim, joined at the wings, with eyes only for His blood, His mercy.

# HALLELUJAH!!!!!!

# **HOW CLOSE?**

### **Ephesians 4:16:**

From whom the whole body, joined, compacted, and knit together by every joint with which it is supplied, when each part is working properly, builds and completes and grows itself up in love.

Our in Him, oneness fellowship with one another is essential for the perfecting of the Saints.

**FULLY GROWN AND MATURE SONS OF GOD!!!** 

### **Ephesians 4:15:**

but, holding the truth in love, we may grow up into him in all things, who is the head, the Christ:

# Mark 10:9 What therefore God hath joined together, let not man put asunder

God's divine relationships in our lives are critical for our growth and development in the Word of His Grace. Without these relationships we would not be complete in His Truth, and especially in His Grace. Treasure one another.

#### I Thessalonians 3:12:

 And the Lord make you to increase and abound in love one toward another.

## Search Me O God

- Is my first thought about me or the other?
- Do I always have to get my way?
   Do I recognize and respond to the need of others?
- How often do I say, "thank you" or "I so appreciate you"
   Especially in the little things. Don't take for granted.
- Does your partner know w/o a doubt how much they mean to you? Have you told them lately?
- Am I gentle? Patient? Supportive? Do I care?