

Relationships- Family #2

AT Snacks-- October 20, 2024

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Monday:

Let's get out of the competition mindset concerning other Christians and other churches.

You aren't here just so you can check the box, that you went to church so you can feel better about yourself. You're here to get kingdomized. You're here to get introduced and acquainted with the King and the kingdom of God, how the kingdom works, and to get equipped for the work of the ministry.

We want to get you into the best place you can be, and get you off the bench and in the game, because the clock is ticking and the kingdom is coming-- with or without you.

I want to encourage you to do something with the word that you hear today. Do something with it! It's taught in the simplest form. A lot of you have notes in your hand. These are provided to learn from so that you can teach it to someone else.

If you are one of the ones who get those notes all the time, it may be somewhere along the way that I ask you in 90 seconds or so to teach me something about grace, or maybe the gifts of the spirit. Can you see the effort that we go to around here to get you established in the word, and to get you where you need to be?

Tuesday:

Please read James 1:21-25.

When you receive new light on a truth that you have already embraced, you've got to either add the new light, or to completely replace your old thought patterns with the new, or nothing really happens. Nothing happens if you don't receive the truth.

It's really hard sometimes for church people to get new light on old truth. It's much easier for kingdom people, because they realize that change is a constant, where we are always going to be changing and evolving into our true identity, which is as sons and daughters of the Most High God.

The Father speaks in many different ways, including the still small voice. If you're not hearing His voice in some way, the problem might not be on His end. **The capacity to hear God is directly connected to your desire to hear Him.**

You are not here to just hear a message and get fed. You are here to hear it and be equipped for the work of the ministry. It breaks the Bible Belt mindset that me and maybe two others do all the ministry around here.

Wednesday:

God reveals Himself as Father because that's who He is, and that's how He wants you to relate to Him.

God is trying to stabilize His people so that you can be a steadying factor, someone that others can kind of hang on to when everything gets shaky. *"There's coming a time where everything that can be shaken will be shaken"*. We are living in that time now.

It's all about relationships, so get on your relationships now. That's where the strength is. That's where the strength of this house is.

Psalms 133 says, *"Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for the brethren to dwell together in unity. It is like the precious oil upon the head, running down on the beard, the beard of Aaron, running down on the edge of his garments. It is like the dew of Hermon, descending upon the mountains of Zion; For there the Lord commanded the blessing – Life evermore"*.

So at the end of your life, it's not going to be how important you were, how much money you made, how good your business was. At the end of your life, you're going to look back and you're going to see what has made your life rich is the relationships that you've been able to encounter and live in and through, along the way.

We need to make a decision. We should make a decision now, and put a high, high priority on our relationships. The relationships that are present in this room and the relationships that you have are probably more important than we can ever understand.

Thursday:

"Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ". You have to let the mind of Christ take the place of the stuff that you think, the stuff that you've settled for and your opinions. A lot of people never do that. They quote those scriptures, but they never do them.

Please read Genesis 1:1-31, but really focus on verses 26-31. These reflect hugely on the rest of this message.

God said, *"Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness"*. You're created in the image of God. The inner qualities are your character, attributes, your nature, your ability to reason, to make moral choices and to exercise dominion over creation.

God formed man of the dust of the ground, but man didn't become a living soul until God breathed life into him.

Like He did Adam, God formed and shaped you. All the effort, all the love, all that He had in Him, He put into forming you, shaping you, and fashioning you. You are His workmanship. You are a representative, a picture, an image of the magnificent workmanship of God. You're His masterpiece!

Wherever you are going to go in life, whatever God has called you do, He prepared beforehand everything that you will ever need to fulfill and accomplish and walk it out. What God has for you to fulfill and accomplish already exists. It's just waiting for you to appropriate it by faith. No one can activate your faith but you.

Friday:

Every thought you can't see, resources you're going to need, they're there. You can only lay hold of those things and appropriate those things by the faith that God has given you.

There's a scripture that says God is no respecter of persons... that needs to be re-qualified. I think God shows personal favoritism to everybody. I think I'm His favorite. And if you don't think you are His favorite, you must not have spent much time with Him lately.

When you interact, when you engage in relationship with Him, He makes you feel like you're the only one. You're His favorite one!

God didn't need anything. He had everything, but He wanted someone He could fashion out of nothing, out of dirt. He fashioned us to be like Him, someone He could enjoy, talk to and fellowship with. Someone that He could nurture, teach, and give out of the abundance of everything He has. **Someone He could love.**

We are made out of dirt with a sinful nature, but we can be turned into someone like Him, and all we have to do is cooperate. Someone who would have the free choice, without any pressure from Him whatsoever.

God is not a pusher. He doesn't push, He pulls. He pulls you into His will, by His Spirit. It pulls you to another step, to another place in your life with the Lord, if we just cooperate.

Saturday:

You can't understand the love of God by reading about it. You can only understand the love of God by experiencing it.

Read 1st, 2nd, and 3rd John. You can read all three of them in like 10 minutes. **Would you?** The word agape love is used 42 times. John is getting some kind of download from God about love. If you want to know something about agape, unconditional love, please take the time to read them.

Love must be expressed, and it must be given.

Could you give your life to someone Who formed and shaped you? He made you unique. There's nobody like you. Don't try to be anybody else. Figure out how to be a better version of yourself.

Any time that you're talking about relationships, you can probably expect that you're going to get tested in some of your relationships. Heads up! **Anytime you make the problem more important than the relationship, the relationship is in trouble.**

Our culture has taught us that if you have trouble with your spouse, get another. If you have a problem with a friend, get another. Have a problem with a co-worker, get another job. The Kingdom of God suffers because of that.

