

Relationships- Family #9

AT Snacks-- December 15, 2024

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Monday:

Is anybody having any challenges? They are going around. That's good news.

God is doing a quick work in people, and that's why some of you are going through some of the most challenging things you've ever been through. He's ironing out some of the wrinkles. He's getting you into a better place, so you can be a functional contributor.

He needs Kingdom people operating and functioning in their true calling, understanding who they are. To be able to read the signs of the times.

The Kingdom of God is relationship, relationship, relationship.

It's sad that people in the Bible Belt think that guys like me, who stand up here and talk, are the ones to do all the ministry. That's not even a Biblical concept. How sad!

Signs and wonders are really taking place right now, but you have to pay attention and look with spiritual eyes and see what's happening. It's all the leadership of the Holy Spirit that helps us with this.

How we relate and interact with the people around us is an accurate indicator of the state and the condition and the health of our own hearts.

Leviticus 19:17-18 says, *"You shall not hate your brother in your heart. You shall surely rebuke your neighbor, and not bear sin because of him. You shall not take vengeance, nor bear any grudge against the children of your people, but you shall love your neighbor as yourself; I am the Lord"*.

Tuesday:

If you don't like yourself, you need to spend a little more time with the Father, because the Father doesn't just love you, He likes you.

Matthew 22: 36-39 says, *"Teacher, which is the great commandment in the law?" Jesus said to him, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, your soul, and your mind. The second is like it. You shall love your neighbor as yourself"*.

It's the spirit (heart) that's the part of you that lives forever.

David and other psalmists talked to themselves to bring their mind, will and emotions in line with the will and purpose of God in their life. We can do this as well, by the Spirit.

Everybody knows the concept that God is a Father, but there are fewer who know Him

experientially, and that's our goal.

The first and most important relationship is with the Father. Our relationships with one another run a close second.

Loving your neighbor means to forgive, honor, be kind, and admonish one another. When admonishing, it must be done in love, in grace and in the proper timing of the Lord.

When admonishing, what if the greater change wasn't in the person who received the admonishment, but in the person who was prompted by the Lord to do it? Because he had to get his heart correct. That's what the whole thing is about.

Wednesday:

Not grumbling, nor provoking, but spurring one another on to good works is also important. These can be considered as works.

If you're looking for an opportunity for the kingdom to come into your life, start engaging in relationships with other people. You will have multiple opportunities, daily, to practice and to exercise these principles.

We are living in a time where relationships need to get stronger. We need to gather together and converse. We need to build relational equity with one another, because when problems come into the relationship, you have to make the relationship more important than the problem. If you don't, the relationship is in trouble.

"Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly". "All scripture is given by inspiration of God. It's profitable for correction, reproof and doctrine".

There's a push out there to create a new bible that applies to all religions, from Christian to Hindu. Millions of people are going to have an opportunity to get really deceived by that. But you shouldn't be. So, pay attention to what is going on out there in the world.

It's what's written, but it's also what God is saying to us. *"My sheep know Me, and they hear My voice"*. My favorite is that still small voice, the voice that you don't hear, but you do hear.

Apply yourself to the written word of God. We talk about relationships with the Father so much that if you're not careful, you'll think that the Bible is not as important as Him. What's written and what God is saying to you are both equally important.

Thursday:

You can decide right now, *"I'm going to make myself a man or woman of the word"*. If you take some time to spend with the Father by His Spirit, He'll help you to understand the things that are written in this book. And again, we are living in a time where deception is at an all time high. The written word is a safeguard.

At times, we have all had to learn things the hard way. God loves you enough to allow you to learn things the hard way. When you do, you remember them better. But if you learn it the hard

way, why would you want someone else to have to do the same? Helping someone can give them a leg up.

Teaching doesn't have to be one certain way, but the "one-on-one" is one of the best ways. All you have to do is just insert a word here and there to help with the wisdom that you've gained along the way in the course of your life.

Helping someone to move up higher can be a relational lesson, a financial lesson, in practical ways, or in overcoming things. Embracing these things will bring a profound change in you and will cause you to be a learner.

If you set your heart to be a learner, God takes you seriously, and He will teach you via the Holy Spirit. If you set your heart to be a learner, your life will never get boring. If you are a learner, you can learn something from anyone.

It's such an adventure to talk and learn how to walk in the kingdom. It's the ultimate adventure that God has called us to live, even the hard parts.

Get your focus where it needs to be. It doesn't just happen, but this is an adventure that we've been called to, and we should approach it as such. There are going to be ups and downs, dangers, trials, winds, mountain tops and valleys. Be content in whatever state you are in. You might have to remind yourself that it is an adventure sometimes.

Friday:

Our relationships are divinely orchestrated. You only know the people you know because of the sovereignty of God.

Our relationships refine us. They shape us, and they help accomplish His kingdom in us and through us, which builds character in us.

People who are a little bit immature in the Lord might say, "*Well, why am I having to go through this?*" That's a "poor me" kind of thing. There's redeeming value in the trials that we go through in our life, that brings stuff to the surface in us that is not like Jesus.

God's more interested in building character in us than making us comfortable. Proverbs 27:17 say, "*As iron sharpens iron, so a man sharpens the countenance of his friend*". Relationships can be really, really abrasive. Maybe, God puts these people in your life to be abrasive toward you, and you abrasive toward them, in a good way, in a kingdom way.

Are you good? Check your countenance. The Bible says that your eyes are the window to your soul. It's out of your heart that flows the issues of our life. When you help someone get into a better place, it ultimately sharpens their countenance. It's really a miracle thing.

If you're thinking about something and if you're trying, you become it.

We all have issues that we're still working through. It's through many trials that we enter the Kingdom of God. Becoming a kingdom person is not necessarily easy, because it's dealing with those deep, deep thoughts, mindsets, opinions, and hurts that you have had.

If you just cooperate, it gets a lot easier. A lot of those things are just internal things that God is doing and working down deep in our hearts, souls and our spirit.

Saturday:

If you listen to Jordan Peterson for a week, you'll listen to him for the rest of your life. I think he's the smartest guy on the whole planet. Apply yourself to that, and you'll thank me for it. Jordan says, "*When you sit down and talk with someone, or discuss something with someone, you have to rightly assume that they know some things that you don't know*".

When it comes to Biblical or political things that we don't agree on, rather than yelling at one another across the river, we need to sit down at the table and have some constructive conversation about those things, so you can find out why I think like I think, and I can find out why you think like you think. This is going to happen a lot in the Kingdom of God.

If you want to achieve unity, whether it's in your marriage, friendship, or in the body of Christ, when it stops being about you, you'll start to experience true unity.

Find the heart level in your relationships. That person has something that you need, and vice versa. It's always a win, win situation. That's a kingdom thing.

God is relentless. He's not pushy, not manipulative or hard about it. You can either cooperate or not. That's your choice. It just makes sense to cooperate with Him, but some people just don't.

Think about it. This problem person of yours, God doesn't just trust everybody with that person. They are important. Someone needs to care for the problem person enough to help them get better. So, start now to see the problem person in a whole new way.