

Home Improvement Series: Building Healthy Relationships

Part Six: “Relational Upkeep: RESPECT”

Pastor's Dale and Cathi Campfield - August 1st, 2010

Intro:

Matt 28:19 *“Go and make disciples of all nations...”*

ECC Process of Discipleship: Making an IMPACT...To Love...To Grow...To Serve

We have 3 priorities – To love...which is expressed in our Sunday morning celebration and connection groups. To grow... which is expressed in our Path to Discipleship. To serve...which is expressed in our daily lives in the places we live, work and play; as well as through the local church. The vision of E.C.C. is to gather together weekly for corporate worship, loving God and each other; then to come together in small Connection Groups for discipleship and fellowship, and are regularly involved in reaching out to others with the love, acceptance, and forgiveness of Jesus Christ through community outreach. To Love...To Grow...To Serve!

We're currently in sermon series entitled, “Home Improvement”. This series is all about Building Healthy Relationships. I would encourage you to be following along with us in our WARRANTY booklets. The WARRANTY is filled with four scriptures from God's Word each week for you to memorize.

Tomorrow, August 2, my bride and I will be celebrating 30 years of marriage. It was 30 years ago tomorrow that we met at the Altar in Bend, Oregon to become husband and wife. We've had 4 beautiful children since then and boat load of beautiful memories. We've gone through the tough times and the blessed times. We've gone through a lot, and are thankful to the Father for being with us each step of the journey.

After being married 30 years, it would be easy to take our relationship for granted and slack off. It would be easy to let things just slide by and go through the motions. But we've realized that we can't, but that we must continue to have regular UPKEEP in our relationship. Take your home for example; you do regular maintenance on your home, regular upkeep, which keeps the value of your home up. Relate this to your relationships.... When you give them regular upkeep and maintenance, the value will continue to increase.

This message is going to be shared by both Cathi and I. It's some of what we've learned over the past 30 years in keep our relationship maintained on a regular basis.

Today we're going to talk about “**Relational Upkeep**”

Our two theme texts are...

Philippians 2:2

“Live together in harmony and love, as though you only had one mind and spirit between you.”

God's ideal for your relationships, whether you're married or not (even if you're not married you're going to get a lot out of this series because it's about relationships) is harmony, intimacy (love) and unity (one mind). The reality is that a lot of our relationships are disharmony, conflict and disappointment.

Ephesians 4:3

“Make every one to keep the unity of the Spirit.”

In this message about Relational Upkeep, we're going to talking about the subject of RESPECT... (*FACEBOOK quotes and video go here*)

Ephesians 5:33

"... and the wife must respect her husband."

1 Peter 3:7

Husbands, in the same way be considerate as you live with your wives, and treat them with respect.

And for those of you that think you're off the hook because you're not married...
Check this out...

1 Peter 2:17

"Show proper respect to everyone."

God's WORD is telling us that We must ALL show respect to EVERYONE... especially those to whom we have relationship with. Why would we not? If we want that relationship to be healthy, then respect must come with it.

So... BE CAREFUL. Be careful in how you do the following with each other (to show respect).

TO SHOW RESPECT....

#1. BE CAREFUL HOW YOU ... TALK

Proverbs 10:19

"Too much talk leads to sin. Be sensible and keep your mouth shut.

Matthew 12:34

"...for out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaks."

#2. BE CAREFUL HOW YOU ... JUDGE

Phil. 2:3

"Don't be selfish; don't try to impress others. Be humble, thinking of others as better than yourselves."

Matthew 7:1

"Do not judge others, and you will not be judged.

Galatians 3:28

"There is neither Jew nor Greek, slave nor free, male nor female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus."

#3. BE CAREFUL HOW YOU ... LISTEN

James 1:19

“Understand this, my dear brothers and sisters: You must all be quick to listen, slow to speak, and slow to get angry.”

Isaiah 28:23

“Listen and hear my voice; pay attention and hear what I say. ... Open your ears, and listen to me! Pay attention, and hear me!”

#4. BE CAREFUL HOW YOU ... DECORATE

Genesis 26:7

“When the men who lived there asked Isaac about his wife, Rebekah, he said, ‘She is my sister.’ He was afraid to say, ‘She is my wife.’ He thought, ‘They will kill me to get her, because she is so beautiful.’”

1 Peter 3:3-4

“Your beauty should not come from outward adornment, such as braided hair and the wearing of gold jewelry and fine clothes. Instead, it should be that of your inner self, the unfading beauty of a gentle and quiet spirit, which is of great worth in God's sight.”

#5. BE CAREFUL HOW YOU ... THINK

Proverbs 15:11

“...how then can we hide our thoughts from God?”

Matthew 3:8

“Do those things that prove you have turned to God and have changed the way you think and act.”

Conclusion:

And as you do these things in showing respect... You watch... you wait... you'll see!
A healthy relationship will come forth!