

## ***The Treasure of My Heart... Pilgrim Youth Institute August 2, 2020***

One of the distinguishing characteristics of a child of God is a willingness to change to become more as God desires... **Isaiah 29:13-16**

The great disconnect... man loves to separate between thought and action, motives and actions... can this be done honestly? *"I didn't mean to..." "Did you make a dedicated effort not to?"*

**Luk 6:43-45** As we relate and interact with others, we are giving something that effects their life. *A bit like an aroma, be it ever so subtle, it effects the atmosphere of a room.*

Are those around me, better or worse for the experience?

What is your strength and forte as you relate to others?

(Don't tell me you don't have any: it is not a thing of "have and have nots", but one of positives and negatives.)

"Your greatest weakness lies parallel to your greatest strength."

### **Relationship Principles**

1. Give what you would appreciate having.
2. Have Christ and His love as my motivator.
3. Let change begin with me.
4. Respect age and experience: esteem others.
5. Seek the purity of others.

1. Give what you would want to receive.

**Be the source.** *Be what you appreciate in others.* Give yourself in the way you wish others would.

**Pro 18:24** **Pro 27:17** **Pro 27:19** **Eph 4:25**

Do we speak the truth into each other's lives? Do I have a record of distorting and contorting "facts"? Do we say one thing when with a person and another thing when they are not around? Why not kindly and gently say it how it is?

**Pro 29:5** **Eph 4:26-27**

*In a life lived with and around other human beings, there are days we strike each other the wrong way. When that happens, when we become angry, what do we do?*

**Luk 6:27-30** *Have you ever felt smitten by another? (Is it possible for two people to simultaneously feel smitten by the other? Quite possibly it is but meet on the road as you go to offer more.)*

**Eph 4:28** *There are many ways we can steal. When I seek attention for selfish reasons. When I demand other people's time, resources, and energy I am potentially stealing from God and the work He has for them.*

*Be a manufacturer instead of consumer. Give to others rather than seeing what you can take. Fill gaps and needs rather than seeking to have others fill yours.*

*What am I giving in the words I speak? (I would never speak corrupt things but...) Notice, he didn't stop there! I am to speak things that edify and things that serve grace to those that hear me.*

**Luk 6:31-34** *May I speak a bit on the "cool" factor and "in groups"? Does these have a place in Christian relationships? (Potentially a two-fold problem: those being exclusive, those who go around trying to feel excluded. Both are wrong...) I have been blessed to have "cool" friends and "not cool" friends...*

*I think my "cool" friends put up with me because they didn't need to compete and save face. My "not cool" friends of course were just glad to have a friend. What kind of friend are you?*

2. **Have Christ and His love as my motivator.**

A question I should ask myself: *How are my relationships different than those who do not know Christ?* (Some years ago I did a job for a professed atheist: he was the nicest and easiest to please man... Why is it that so often these type of people put "Christians" to shame?)

**Luk 6:35-38** *Who does not like to receive mercy? Yet, which of us has not been slow in extending mercy to others? How do I give mercy to others? Is it given in the measure that I want it measured to me? Have I forgiven others in the way and to the extent that God has needed to forgive me?*

*Would Christ feel the way I do about the "problem person" in my life? How have I given my life for this person as Christ has given His life for me?*

### **3. Let change begin with me.**

**Luk 6:41-42** *Where do I focus in the rubs of daily life? Is the problem I see potentially a reflection of my own heart more than it is an actual fault in another?*

We generally would be open to group and world change... where they often stagger a bit is at personal change. *Why is that? Is it the cost of sticking out, of being strange?*

Any good change occurring in a group, and even in the world, has its roots in personal change.

### **4. Respect age and experience: Esteem others.**

**1Ti 5:1-2**

a. Have respect for age and experience. (No matter how mistaken and misplaced I think older are, they still deserve my respect for the path they have blazed.)

b. Treat peers as equals.

(Position should not affect the way the position holder relates to those he is to bless with his position.)

(Position should affect the way I relate to those who hold a position for my good.)

Do you value all peers equally? (Remember the "cool" factor...

**Jas 2:1 and 9 Phil 2:3**

5. **Seek the purity of others.** Notice the addition of purity to the relationship with sisters. (No matter how close a positive relationship may be built between genders: they can never wholly be "sisters". Respect them, carefully.)

**Mar 10:19 2Ti 2:22 1Co 6:18-19**

(Whether married or single, your body is not something to use for self-gratification and self-pleasure.)

**1Co 7:1-2** (\*Touch = to be attached to and have obligations for and towards... but if you are going to – get married!)

**1Co 7:4-5** (**Defraud:** to give indication and promise of something more but than to pull back from fulfilling the fullness of the expectation I created....)

*I do not believe relationships between genders should be embarrassedly awkward, or that we should regard each other as a mortal danger.*

*I do believe we should be cautiously respectful and dedicated to preserving each other's purity of mind and heart. We should guard against being and forming a stumbling block and/or temptation in any way within our power.*

A "proper reserve" or lack thereof shows up in so many different ways. Reserve is shown in the words I speak or chose not to speak.

**Tech use...** *would you say face to face and around others what you message?*

**Physical contact:** *no problem with chivalry! Don't hesitate. But have a high and deep respect for the bodies of others.*

**Emotional connections:** *no problem with visiting and friendliness but be very careful! You can defraud.  
I am safest when those around me are safe...*

**1Ti 4:12-13 1Th 5:11-13 1Th 5:14-23**

**Amen!**

*What treasures are you sharing with those around you?*