**Relationship Takes Two**

It takes two to make a relationship. We have a common idea that God is almighty, He is great, we need to bow down and honor Him. We need to serve Him and we almost entertain a “slave” mentality. He is up there in the position of glory and honor and we are down here in the lesser position as mere men and servants. We see ourselves walking with God in a “slave” relationship based on obligation rather than walking with Him in a “love” relationship. That is not the way that God intended for us to walk with Him.

**Isaiah 29:13** tells us that our “fear of God” is a man made precept. God really wants us to run to him in confidence, not away from Him in fear. God’s agenda is minister to us.

Jesus said that unless you let me wash your feet, you have no part of me.

***Joh 13:4*** *He riseth from supper, and laid aside his garments; and took a towel, and girded himself.*

***Joh 13:5*** *After that he poureth water into a bason, and began to wash the disciples' feet, and to wipe them with the towel wherewith he was girded.*

We find Jesus having the last supper with his disciples. It says He girded himself with a towel. If we were to look at Him physically, we would find Jesus dressed in the manner of a servant. It was in this manner that He washed the feet of His disciples.

 **Joh 13:6** Then cometh he to Simon Peter: and Peter saith unto him, Lord, dost thou wash my feet?

**Joh 13:7** Jesus answered and said unto him, What I do thou knowest not now; but thou shalt know hereafter.

**Joh 13:8** Peter saith unto him, Thou shalt never wash my feet. Jesus answered him, If I wash thee not, thou hast no part with me.

**Joh 13:9** Simon Peter saith unto him, Lord, not my feet only, but also *my* hands and *my* head.

When he got to Peter, Peter told him that he would not let him wash his feet. Jesus told him that unless Peter allowed Jesus to serve or minister to him, Peter would have no part with him. At that, Peter said “Wash it all Jesus. I want it all, don’t stop at my feet.”

Jesus came to minister to us. He came to serve. He did not come to exalt himself above us.

**Mark 10:42-45**.

 ***Mar 10:42*** *But Jesus called them to him, and saith unto them, Ye know that they which are accounted to rule over the Gentiles exercise lordship over them; and their great ones exercise authority upon them.*

*Mar 10:43 But so shall it not be among you: but whosoever will be great among you, shall be your minister:*

*Mar 10:44 And whosoever of you will be the chiefest, shall be servant of all.*

*Mar 10:45 For even the Son of man came not to be ministered unto, but to minister, and to give his life a ransom for many.*

**Luke 22:25-27**

***Luke 22:25****And he said unto them, The kings of the Gentiles exercise lordship over them; and they that exercise authority upon them are called benefactors.****26****But ye shall not be so: but he that is greatest among you, let him be as the younger; and he that is chief, as he that doth serve.****27****For whether is greater, he that sitteth at meat, or he that serveth****? is not he that sitteth at meat?******but I am among you as he that serveth****.*

Who is greater, the one who sits at the table or the one that serves the table? Which position did Jesus say he was in and which position did he say that we are in? Don’t miss it! Read it carefully!

Life eternal is based on having a relationship with Jesus.

 ***Joh 17:3*** *And this is life eternal, that they might know thee the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom thou hast sent.*

In **Ephesians 5:30-32** the marriage relationship between a man and woman is compared to the relationship that Christ has with the church. Two opposite parts come together to make one.

We are going to talk about that relationship and how it relates to us in our relationship with Jesus: Two opposite parts come together to make one. In Genesis chapter one we read that God duplicated His image in man.

 ***Gen 1:27*** *So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them.*

It says that woman was created “*in”* man before she was ever taken out of him. In chapter two, verse 18 it says that man was not created to be alone. He needed a help meet.

 ***Gen 2:18*** *And the LORD God said, It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him an help meet for him.*

According to the Strong’s Concordance, a help meet is the opposite counter part, that validates the other part.

 ***Gen 2:21*** *And the LORD God caused a deep sleep to fall upon Adam, and he slept: and he took one of his ribs, and closed up the flesh instead thereof;*

***Gen 2:22*** *And the rib, which the LORD God had taken from man, made he a woman, and brought her unto the man.*

***Gen 2:23*** *And Adam said, This is now bone of my bones, and flesh of my flesh: she shall be called Woman, because she was taken out of Man.*

***Gen 2:24*** *Therefore shall a man leave his father and his mother, and shall cleave unto his wife: and they shall be one flesh.*

Because man was created in God’s image, if it was not good for man to be alone, then it is not good for God to be alone.

 ***Eph 1:4*** *According as he hath chosen us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before him in love:*

Man was created “*in God”*  before he was ever taken out of Him. Picture yourselves in God. We are living out what was established way back then. We were created in Him before we were ever taken out of Him.

 ***Eph 5:29*** *For no man ever yet hated his own flesh; but nourisheth and cherisheth it, even as the Lord the church:*

***Eph 5:30*** *For we are members of his body, of his flesh, and of his bones.*

***Eph 5:31*** *For this cause shall a man leave his father and mother, and shall be joined unto his wife, and they two shall be one flesh.*

We are “bone of His bones.” Again, picture yourselves being “in God almighty.” We are one with Him. When you have a relationship, the two come together, and together they complete each other. Think about this with God. In **Colossians 2:10,** it says that we are complete in him. But that is only half of the relationship. In Ephesians it says that we bring Him to His fullness.

 ***Ephesians 1:22*** *And hath put all things under his feet, and gave him to be the head over all things to the church,*

***Eph 1:23*** *Which is his body, the fulness of him that filleth all in all.*

We are complete in Him, but walking together with Him in our completeness fulfills Him. When we correctly see the position that he created us to fill, and we walk in his provision, he is validated as a good provider!

In a marriage relationship, each part is valuable. No part is more valuable than the other. No part is in bondage to the other. Man is not lifted above the woman, nor the woman lifted above the man. Both parts are valuable, and it takes both parts to make a complete whole.

According to **1 Corinthians 12:12-25** , the body of Christ has many parts. No part is esteemed above the other. Particular care is directed to those parts, which seem to be weak. The body is as strong as its weakest link. We are in the position of weakness and God has provided for us in such a way that we are filled with his strength.

In a marriage relationship, the two come together and they take on a single identity.

 ***Eph 5:31*** *For this cause shall a man leave his father and mother, and shall be joined unto his wife, and they two shall be one flesh.*

 ***Gen 5:2*** *Male and female created he them; and blessed them, and called their name Adam, in the day when they were created.*

God called “their” name Adam. They became identified as one. God identifies with us in the same manner. Our identity is based on His power and strength and His provision for us.

**Isaiah 40: 26**Lift up your eyes on high, and behold who hath created these things, that bringeth out their host by number: **he calleth them all by names by the greatness of his might,** for that **he is strong in power; not one faileth**.

A marriage is based on commitment. The marriage is as strong as the commitment that the two parties have for each other. When that commitment or trust is violated, the marriage is in danger.

God is not that way. He is committed to us and nothing can sever His commitment to us.

**Hebrews 13:5** says that He will never leave or forsake us. He is always there with us. It is a promise that He has spoken to us that He upholds. It says in **Romans 8:35-39** that nothing can separate us from the love of God! His love is unconditional.

Knowing someone is different than knowing about them. A relationship takes getting to know someone. God wants us to know Him. In Daniel it says that “people who know their God are strong.” Knowing Him makes us strong. But being involved in a relationship means that both parts become involved with knowing each other. God knows our ways. He knows us because He created us.

***Psa 139:2*** *Thou knowest my downsitting and mine uprising, thou understandest my thought afar off.*

*Psa 139:3 Thou compassest my path and my lying down, and art acquainted with all my ways.*

***Psa 18:30*** *As for God, his way is perfect: the word of the LORD is tried: he is a buckler to all those that trust in him.*

*Psa 18:32 It is God that girdeth me with strength, and maketh my way perfect.*

We are told to fill our thoughts continually with the goodness of God. **Psalms 77:12** A relationship is only a relationship if that meditation is two sided.

 ***Psa 139:17*** *How precious also are thy thoughts unto me, O God! how great is the sum of them!*

***Psa 139:18*** *If I should count them, they are more in number than the sand: when I awake, I am still with thee.*

God’s heart is filled with thoughts of you. They are not thoughts of condemnation, but of praise.

We are told to sing and worship God continually. God sings over us as well.

 ***Zep 3:17*** *The LORD thy God in the midst of thee is mighty; he will save, he will rejoice over thee with joy; he will rest in his love, he will joy over thee with singing.*

God is in love with you!

In a relationship we communicate with each other. We have the same dreams and desires. A relationship will break down if that communication develops a wall. Sometimes we come to a spot that we no longer feel free to communicate. We begin to see each other as “unapproachable.” “I can’t talk to him about this, because He won’t understand.” If He knows what I have done, he will be mad.” That attitude begins to break down the communication that holds the relationship together. We have developed that “unapproachable” attitude about God. We think that he can’t or won’t understand our weaknesses.

God wants us to “run to Him” with everything. **Hebrews 4:12-16** There is nothing that we can’t talk to Him about. He understands exactly where we are coming from. God does not want us to do like Adam and Eve did when they fell short. They ran and hid. He does not want us to do that.

***Isaiah 45:9*** *Woe unto him that has a controvery with His maker.*

God wants us to talk to him about things we don’t understand. It plays into the hands of the enemy if we fail to communicate with God about those things. If you have a question, God wants you to ask Him! He wants to give you and answer.

 ***Isa 45:11*** *Thus saith the LORD, the Holy One of Israel, and his Maker, Ask me of things to come concerning my sons, and concerning the work of my hands command ye me.*

As a Christian we are instructed to “Pray without ceasing.” In a relationship, both sides are working together for the good of the whole. The Bible says that “He is continually making intercession for us.”  **Hebrews 7:25, Romans 8:26, Psalms 121:4** God says that He never “slumbers or sleeps” because He is continually watching out for us.

The husband is the “savior” and head of the body.

 ***Eph 5:23*** *For the husband is the head of the wife, even as Christ is the head of the church: and he is the saviour of the body.*

 ***1 Peter 3:7*** *Honor the wife as the weaker vessel*

Sometimes women don’t like to hear that because it makes them feel like they are not as valuable as the man. This is not what the scripture is talking about. The word savior in this scripture means defender. It is in a man’s heart to carry the load, to open car doors, to take care of the woman. Caring for the woman is programed into the man. That is what is in God’s heart. He wants to take care of us. He wants to ease the burden from our shoulders. He wants to carry our load!

God wants our relationship with Him to be based on “oneness.”

 ***Joh 17:21*** *That they all may be one; as thou, Father, art in me, and I in thee, that they also may be one in us: that the world may believe that thou hast sent me.*

*Joh 17:22 And the glory which thou gavest me I have given them; that they may be one, even as we are one:*

*Joh 17:23 I in them, and thou in me, that they may be made perfect in one; and that the world may know that thou hast sent me, and hast loved them, as thou hast loved me.*

Did you know that the world can’t believe that Jesus has been sent unless we take on the ownership that we are one with Him. If we don’t understand the concept that we are as much one with God as Jesus is one with God, then it will be impossible for the people of the world to understand how much God loves them.

Remember the role of the help- meet. The world has a distorted picture of God. They see him as demanding and judgmental. They see themselves as subservient to Him because we see him that way in our lives! When we begin to see ourselves filled with same glory and honor that Jesus was filled with, when we begin to understand the love relationship what God wants to have with us and the extent of His provision for us, then world will begin to see God as a good provider.