

Dealing with People

Adapted from Making Things Right When Things Go Wrong (P. FAULKNER)
“Deal with the people in your life”

- I. Introduction
 - A. We live in an ironic reality
 - 1. As humans, we have a powerful need for people to be in our lives
 - 2. Yet at the same time, it is often the people in our lives who are the source of our struggles
 - B. What are we going to do?
- II. Body – 3 Things we need to know to be able to deal with the people we need:
 - A. Regard no man according to the flesh
 - 1. 2Corinthians 5:16 “Therefore from now on we recognize no one according to the flesh...”
 - 2. The society we live in, on the other hand, is obsessed with appearances and abilities...
 - 3. The Bible is clear that it’s the inner person that counts
 - a. 1Peter 3:3, 4
 - b. 1Samuel 16:6, 7
 - c. 2Corinthians 4:16 – 18
 - B. Learn to treasure people in your heart
 - 1. Listen to the words of Christ – Matthew 6:19 – 21
 - 2. 2Corinthians 5:1 – 5
 - 3. The people in our lives are eternal, spiritual beings and by their nature they must have an eternal and spiritual significance in our lives
 - C. Leave them better than you find them

1. Virtually every child in Wyoming can quote the camper's motto as they have heard it from their parents "Leave the camp site better than when you found it"
2. I believe that Jesus put this motto into action with the people He encountered in His ministry
3. This is why Paul points us to Christ when he was teaching the Philippians how to deal with the people in their lives:
 - a. Philippians 2:3 – 5a
 - b. Philippians 2:14 – 16a
4. Jesus' motto for dealing with people goes this way, "IN EVERYTHING, therefore, treat people the same way you want them to treat you, for this is the Law and the Prophets"

III. Conclusions

- A. We all need people in our lives. Sometimes it is these very same people who make life difficult for us
- B. How do we handle the people in our lives?
 1. Recognize no one according to the flesh
 2. Treasure people in your heart
 3. Leave them better than when you found them