

The Jesus Difference – Week 5 – 3-5-23 – Pastor Guy

1. What are some of the most impactful relationships that you have had in life?
2. Share your marital status and how God has worked in your life in that status?
3. Pastor Guy said that if Jesus is not making a difference in your relationships, it is because you have not let Jesus into that area. What are your thoughts about this?

Ephesians 5:21- 33 - ²¹Submit to one another out of reverence for Christ. ²²Wives, submit yourselves to your own husbands as you do to the Lord. ²³For the husband is the head of the wife as Christ is the head of the church, his body, of which he is the Savior. ²⁴Now as the church submits to Christ, so also wives should submit to their husbands in everything. ²⁵Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her ²⁶to make her holy, cleansing her by the washing with water through the word, ²⁷and to present her to himself as a radiant church, without stain or wrinkle or any other blemish, but holy and blameless. ²⁸In this same way, husbands ought to love their wives as their own bodies. He who loves his wife loves himself. ²⁹After all, no one ever hated their own body, but they feed and care for their body, just as Christ does the church— ³⁰for we are members of his body. ³¹“For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and the two will become one flesh.” ³²This is a profound mystery—but I am talking about Christ and the church. ³³However, each one of you also must love his wife as he loves himself, and the wife must respect her husband.

4. Ephesians 5:21 is the foundation of everything else that comes after it in this passage. How does submitting to others impact our lives?
5. Why do you think that God calls for us to submit to one another?
6. How was the challenge for wives to submit to their husbands and for husbands to love their wives revolutionary for the time it was written?
7. Pastor Guy mentioned that before Adam & Eve sinned they were both co-regents, or co-rulers of the earth. How did this dynamic change after the fall?

Genesis 3: 16b - Your desire will be for your husband, and he will rule over you.”

8. How did sin impact God’s plan for marriage?
9. How does sin impact marriage (and all relationships) today?
10. In what ways is Jesus’ view of relationships in general contrary to how we want to live?

Galatians 3:28 - There is neither Jew nor Gentile, neither slave nor free, nor is there male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus.

11. If we are all one in Christ, why do you think that God gives specific instructions for husbands, wives, children, parents, slaves, masters, etc.?
12. Pastor Guy mentioned that every relationship is on a slanted plane, and takes energy to move it forward. What are your thoughts about this analogy?
13. What are some specific things that you can do to move your relationships forward?
14. Where do you look for help in relationships?
15. What does it mean to have Jesus at the center of your relationships?

Live your life in such a way that you are the kind of person that you would want others to be.