

GETTING TO THE ROOT OF OUR PROBLEM

Building Bridges - Part 5

WHAT THE BIBLE SAYS

1. NOTHING MATTERS MORE THAN RELATIONSHIPS.

“The entire law is summed up in a single command: ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’” Gal. 5:14

“... if I have not love, I am nothing!” 1 Cor. 13:2

2. RELATIONSHIPS ARE NEVER EASY BECAUSE WE’RE ALL SINNERS.

“There is no one on earth who does what is right all the time and never makes a mistake.” Eccl. 7:20

“The old sinful nature loves to do evil, which is just opposite from what the Holy Spirit wants. And the Spirit gives us desires that are opposite from what the sinful nature desires. These two forces are constantly fighting each other, and your choices are never free from this conflict.” Gal. 5:17

3. THE ROOT OF EVERY PROBLEM IS SELF-CENTEREDNESS

“Do you know where your fights and arguments come from? They come from the selfish desires that war within you. You want things, but you do not have them...So you argue and fight.” James 4:1-2

“The things that come out of the mouth come from the heart, and these make a man ‘unclean.’” Matt. 15:18

“The wrong things the sinful self does are clear: being sexually unfaithful... hating, making trouble, being jealous, being angry, being selfish, making people angry with each other, causing divisions among people, feeling envy, being drunk... and doing other things like these.” Gal. 5:19-21

“If you keep on biting and devouring each other, watch out or you will be destroyed by each other. So I say, live by the Spirit and you will not gratify the desires of the sinful nature.” Gal. 5:15-16

HOW CAN I BECOME MORE OTHER-CENTERED?

1. FACE UP TO MY SINFUL NATURE

“If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.” 1 John 1:8

2. FACE UP TO MY DISAPPOINTMENTS IN LIFE

“In the world you will have trouble.” John 16:33

3. FOCUS MORE ON THE HOPE OF HEAVEN

“... We look forward to what we have not yet seen. For the troubles we see will soon be over, but the joys to come will last forever. For we know that when this earthly tent we live in is taken down – when we die and leave these bodies – we will have a home in heaven, an eternal body made for us by God Himself and not by human hands.” 2 Cor. 4:18-5:1

4. FOCUS MORE ON GOD’S GRACE TO ME

“Have mercy on me, O God, according to Your unfailing love; according to Your great compassion blot out my transgressions.” Psalm 51:2

“God canceled our debt, which listed all the rules we failed to follow. He took away that record with its rules and nailed it to the cross.” Col. 2:14

“Those who belong to Christ Jesus have nailed the passions and desires of their sinful nature to His cross and crucified them there” Gal. 5:24

5. FOLLOW THE SPIRIT’S LEADING

“We get our new life from the Spirit, so we should follow the Spirit. We must not be proud or make trouble with each other or be jealous.” Gal. 5:25-26

“The Spirit produces the fruit of love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control.” Gal. 5:22-23

Next Sermon’s Topic:
BUILDING A BRIDGE TO YOUR FAMILY
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