

How do I get all I want from Relationships?

2 Corinthians 5:14-21

November 18, 2012

James 4:1-3. **How do you get what you want from relationships?**

1) Live for Jesus 2 Cor. 5:14-15

- It's the only way we'll see God's call to unity Eph. 4:1-6
- 2 Cor. 10:1-2

2) See relationships in view of eternity 2 Cor. 5:16-17

- Romans 5:8
- 2 Cor. 10:7-11

3) Seek to reconcile all relationships to Jesus 2 Cor. 5:18-21

- Ps. 78:4-7; 2 Tim. 2:2
- 2 Cor. 10:12-14

*I get all I want from relationships,
when I want all God wants!*

- Your primary purpose is to want what God wants. Would/do you die for your spouse, dad, friend that you might have God's glory in relationships? What would that look like?
- Your relationships exist to reach people for Christ. What concerns you about people?
- Your relationships exist to reconcile people to Jesus. Are you reaching people for Christ and people in Christ? Who are the people you have given up on?

Message Based Discussion Questions

1) When you are happy, how do you celebrate?

Digging Deeper:

- 2) The real problem is inside of us. What we want often becomes more important than God Himself. Read Romans 7:21-25. What are several things at work inside of Paul?
- 3) Read James 4:1-4. Without God, it's all conflict. It blinds us to our dependence upon God, turns us inward, and causes us to either fear or exploit others. Why do we fight? What kinds of idols of the heart can get in the way?
- 4) Read James 4:5-10. What are God's solutions to conflict?

Implementing the message into your life:

- 5) What are our biggest challenges to implementing God's purposes for relationships?
- 6) Are there some relationships you have that need attention to align with God's purposes? What do you need to do in order to make adjustments in your life?

Good intentions are only good intentions

- If you take care of someone's physical needs only, without leading them to Jesus, you may provide a means for the enemy to keep bombarding them with a false gospel Matt. 26:11-12; John 12:8
- If you let people go off on their own without urging them to Jesus, you may strengthen them in their hardness toward God 1 Cor. 2:1-5
- If you hope your example will reach people, they may go to a Christ-less eternity Rom. 10:9-17