

Expectations in Relationships: You're supposed to serve me!

John 13

February 17, 2013

1 Samuel 18:1-4

How does Jesus want you to approach relationships?

- 1) Jesus shows you how to finish well loving others John 13:1-3**
- 2) Jesus wants you to serve others John 13:4-5**
- 3) Jesus wants you to disciple people to truth John 13:6-17**
- 4) Jesus wants you to rise above adversities John 13:18-30**
- 5) Jesus wants you to overcome by loving others exactly as He does John 13:31-35**

Godly expectations anticipate Jesus working through you so you can love others!

How do you implement this?

- 1) Accept that you have expectations.
- 2) Practice three things:
 - Compassion – genuine awareness of another's suffering with a desire to help.
 - Forgiveness – pardon for an offense without treating him as a offender
 - Forbearance – patience under provocation. Willing to stand alongside someone in trouble.

What does it mean?

- 1) Means I accept suffering and am willing to endure it for another's sake.
- 2) Means I'm willing to live with the poor. Jam. 2:1-5
- 3) Means I resist the temptation to favoritism. Jam. 2:1-5
- 4) Means I'm committed to persevere in hardship.
- 5) Means rejecting a personal happiness and comfort agenda than another's standing with God.
- 6) Means I live with a commitment to forgive.
- 7) Means I overlook minor offenses by focusing on the big things God is doing.
- 8) Means I won't compromise on what is morally right and true. I will point others to God and the Word, and not condemn.

Message Based Discussion Questions

- 1) The greater the gap of what you expect in life and what you experience will create a tension that you may or may not deal with well. What are some **examples of expectations and actual experience that people might see in** schooling, occupation, marriage, family and/or retirement?

Digging deeper into the text:

- 2) What are two of God's expectations in Matthew 28:18-20?
_____ ; _____ What are some of the challenges to the fulfillment of that mandate?
 - 3) What are two of the expectations the writer to the Hebrews has in Hebrews 5:12-14? _____ ; _____ How does Hebrews 5:12-14 define our responsibilities so that we can discern godly expectations?
 - 4) Choose two of the passages below. What are examples of expectations versus experience in the following? Gen. 4:4-15; 13:1-15; 17:1-18; 22:1-19; 37:1-28 (cf. 42:21).
- Implementing this message to your life:**
- 5) What are expectations that you may have had that God has taught you were wrong? Based on the principles of the message, what do you need to do?
 - 6) How can you learn to discern what are godly expectations for schooling, occupation, marriage, family and retirement? How does that impact your relationships?