

Deeper Life Notes

Sanctified Screens – 1 Corinthians 10:31

Pastor Dan Osborn, July 10, 2016

"Strengthening Relationships"



Watertown
Evangelical
Free Church

Consider

"...living for likes, longing for love"

Craig Groeschel in # Struggles

Read

Matthew 1:23

John 1:1

John 1:14

Romans 5:8

John 13: 1-17

Discuss

How do we balance personal presence with virtual presence in our relationships?

What does Christ model about personal presence for us from the verses above?

Has anyone ever asked you to be present in real time or have you ever wanted to ask that of someone else?

Have you ever been in a group of people all engrossed in technology and you were not? How did that feel?

What makes you feel like someone values you in a relationship?

Evaluate your last couple weeks in regard to relationship building time, are you satisfied with what comes to mind? If not, spend some great relationship time with God and ask Him to help you prioritize and cultivate personal presence with those in your sphere of influence.

Listening Tips

"The tool of encouragement is forged by the tool of listening. Learn to hear what a person is saying – then you may be able to encourage"

"When we listen with our hearts, we are seeking to hear not only the words a person is trying to say, but also the heart message behind the words. This involves paying close attention to more than the words spoken; it also involves reading body language, being sensitive to tone of voice, and interpreting the meaning of eye contact or lack thereof. Listening also involves interpreting times of silence. The person who listens values "seeking to understand" Nursing Home Ministry: Where Hidden Treasures are Found. by Bill Goodrich and Tom McCormick, 2003

Six Tips for being a good listener

- Consciously choose to listen.
- Prayerfully listen. *"Service to others begins in solitude where we listen for the silence of God to speak."* (J. William Holmes)
- Listen with empathy.
- Ask questions or respond with interest.
- Rephrase to clarify the other persons heart message.
- Prayerfully discern an instructive response.

Six Key ingredients of an Encourager relationship

- Acceptance
- Hearing (listening)
- Empathy
- Congruence (state of harmony, agreement)
- Caring

Four Verbal skills of Encouragement

- Reflection
- Clarification
- Exploring
- Intimate interaction

Consider these verse - How does our use of technology and time help us pursue these priorities?

The Kingdom of God: *"Seek first His kingdom and His righteousness"* (Matthew 6:33).

Love for God: *"You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength"* (Mark 12:30).

Love for Jesus: *"He who loves father or mother more than Me [Jesus] is not worthy of Me; and he who loves son or daughter more than Me is not worthy of Me"* (Matthew 10:37).

The Lord Jesus Christ: *"He Himself [Christ] will come to have first place in everything"* (Colossians 1:18).

Spiritual things in heaven: *"Keep seeking the things above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. Set your mind on the things above, not on the things that are on earth"* (Colossians 3:1-2).

The spiritual goal of heaven: *"One thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and reaching forward to what lies ahead, I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus"* (Philippians 3:13-14).

Love: *"Above all, keep fervent in your love for one another"* (1 Peter 4:8; cf. Colossians 3:14).

The glory of God: *"Whatever you do, do all to the glory of God"* (1 Corinthians 10:31).

Eternal things: *"We look not at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen; for the things which are seen are temporal, but the things which are not seen are eternal"* (2 Corinthians 4:18).

Good deeds: *"Learn to engage in good deeds"* (Titus 3:14). *"... zealous for good deeds"* (2:14). *"Be careful to engage in good deeds"* (3:8).

*Adapted from <http://truediscipleship.com/set-your-priorities-for-god/>