

## God's Divine Order In Relationships

**Text: Heb. 5:12**

There are some principles we just can't get enough of:

Purpose, priorities, stability, fruitfulness are the byproduct of Divine Order

Churches on the island of Crete founded by Paul and Titus

- first written laws, civil and criminal
- It's century old
- **Titus 1:4** *set in order the things that are wanting*

Everything out of order can be tied back to a principle that is either out of order or is being ignored.

The goal isn't order, it is the outcome of order... purposeful life in Christ.

### **Relationship with God**

We are placing God at the center. Everything rotates around it and can't function without it. He is the hub, He holds it all together. We weren't created to be the hub.

**Matthew 6:33** (ESV) *But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you.*

**1 John 4:19** *We love Him because He first loved us.*

Have no other gods before me.

**Exodus 20:3-5** (NLT) *"You must not have any other god but me. 4 "You must not make for yourself an idol of any kind or an image of anything in the heavens or on the earth or in the sea. 5 You must not bow down to them or worship them, for I, the Lord your God, am a jealous God who will not tolerate your affection for any other gods. I lay the sins of the parents upon their children; the entire family is affected—even children in the third and fourth generations of those who reject me.*

Jesus, the way, the truth and the life.

**John 14:6** (NLT) *Jesus told him, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one can come to the Father except through me.*

It's not an automated system. We have to receive Him.

### **Romans 10:9,10**

- yesterday, our evangelism team went out and led 10 people to Christ.
- yesterday on Daily Victory, Pastor Jacqueline shared so eloquently on our relationship with God being number one

Love the Lord your God all the days of thy life that the days may be prolonged. Hear, observe to do that.

Whenever you're with your kids you're supposed to talk about God's boundaries.

Shamah - listen with your legs. Hear and do, listen and obey.

**Deuteronomy 6:1-9** (NLT) **A Call for Wholehearted Commitment**

*“These are the commands, decrees, and regulations that the Lord your God commanded me to teach you. You must obey them in the land you are about to enter and occupy, 2 and you and your children and grandchildren must fear the Lord your God as long as you live. If you obey all his decrees and commands, you will enjoy a long life. 3 Listen closely, Israel, and be careful to obey. Then all will go well with you, and you will have many children in the land flowing with milk and honey, just as the Lord, the God of your ancestors, promised you. 4 ‘Listen, O Israel! The Lord is our God, the Lord alone.[a] 5 And you must love the Lord your God with all your heart, all your soul, and all your strength. 6 And you must commit yourselves wholeheartedly to these commands that I am giving you today. 7 Repeat them again and again to your children. Talk about them when you are at home and when you are on the road, when you are going to bed and when you are getting up. 8 Tie them to your hands and wear them on your forehead as reminders. 9 Write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates.*

We need to have intentional times each day to hear His voice.

My sheep hear my voice. I know them, they follow me.

He speaks through His Spirit, His Word, His direction.

**Proverbs 3:6** *acknowledging him and he directs our paths*

**John 6:63** *spirit quickens flesh profits nothing but the words He speaks are spirit and life.*

- the whole purpose of the Bible is to reconnect us to God through Jesus

#### **Relationship with Self**

This should come naturally but will only effectively be within His order when it aligns with His Word.

Hurt people hurt people, healed people heal people.

You can't pour into others or contain love when your vessel is cracked and broken.

**Mark 12:30-31 (NIV)** *Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength. The second is this: Love your neighbor as yourself. There is no commandment greater than these.*

A cultural trap is telling us to follow our heart and make it all about me... that's unhealthy and puts us at the hub. Humility is a massive component of loving ourselves.

**Proverbs 18:12 (NIV)** *Before a downfall the heart is haughty, but humility comes before honor.*

**Proverbs 27:2 (NIV)** *Let someone else praise you, and not your own mouth; an outsider, and not your own lips.*

Self-love is not conceited.

**2 Timothy 3:1-2 (NIV)** *But mark this: There will be terrible times in the last days. People will be lovers of themselves, lovers of money, boastful, proud, abusive, disobedient to their parents, ungrateful, unholy.*

The Bible warns us against being lovers of ourselves. While we should love ourselves by ensuring we have spiritual, physical and emotional health, we should not self-obsess over ourselves. Two of the Bible verses on self love worth reading are 2 Timothy 3:1-2, as they outline what the end times will look like — and none of the examples are viable examples for love.<sup>1</sup>

Loving yourself is putting yourself IN CHRIST.

**Galatians 2:20 (NIV)** *I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me. The life I now live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.*

You can't love others until you love yourself. You can't give what you don't have. If you hate yourself and don't treat yourself with kindness, mercy and grace, you won't be effective in loving others. Loving yourself is taking the time to do the inner work, to heal from abuses, addictions, self-sabotaging behaviors, trauma, etc.

### Relationship with Family

#### 1. Spouse

**Ephesians 5:22- (NLT)** *For wives, this means submit to your husbands as to the Lord. 23 For a husband is the head of his wife as Christ is the head of the church. He is the Savior of his body, the church. 24 As the church submits to Christ, so you wives should submit to your husbands in everything. 25 For husbands, this means love your wives, just as Christ loved the church. He gave up his life for her 26 to make her holy and clean, washed by the cleansing of God's word. 27 He did this to present her to himself as a glorious church without a spot or wrinkle or any other blemish. Instead, she will be holy and without fault. 28 In the same way, husbands ought to love their wives as they love their own bodies. For a man who loves his wife actually shows love for himself. 29 No one hates his own body but feeds and cares for it, just as Christ cares for the church. 30 And we are members of his body. 31 As the Scriptures say, "A man leaves his father and mother and is joined to his wife, and the two are united into one." 32 This is a great mystery, but it is an illustration of the way Christ and the church are one. 33 So again I say, each man must love his wife as he loves himself, and the wife must respect her husband.*

#### 2. Kids

**Ephesians 6:1-4 (KJV)** *Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. "Honor your father and mother," which is the first commandment with promise: "that it may be well with you and you may live long on the earth." And you, fathers, do not provoke your children to wrath, but bring them up in the training and admonition of the Lord.*

- Children are not trained to stay by our side forever. **Proverbs 22:6** *Train up a child in the way he should go, And when he is old he will not depart from it.*

**Deuteronomy 5:16** *Honor your father and your mother, as the LORD your God has commanded you, that your days may be long, and that it may be well with you in the land which the LORD your God is giving you.*

**Proverbs 1:8** *My son, hear the instruction of your father, And do not forsake the law of your mother;*

#### 3. External family

### Relationship with Purposeful Others

Pastors, purposeful friends, distant family, clients, business partners etc.

I intentionally put pastors here because your pastor is not your God. Too many homes have been broken because "Pastor / Prophet / My man of God said" but God didn't say.

**Ruth 1:16...** *But Ruth replied, "Don't ask me to leave you and turn back. Wherever you go, I will go; wherever you live, I will live. Your people will be my people, and your God will be my God. 17 Wherever you die, I will die, and there I will be buried. May the LORD punish me severely if I allow anything but death to separate us!" 18 When Naomi saw that Ruth was determined to go with her, she said nothing more.*

Just because it isn't immediate family doesn't mean that it can't be just as / purposeful / life. It doesn't mean it isn't real or that it isn't love. Ruth wasn't looking for Boaz, she was looking for barley. It was in her obedience to steward a purposeful relationship properly that her purpose was revealed.

## Relationship with Others

- social media, distant coworkers, neighbors, patients, clients,
- Golden rule **Matthew 7:12** “In everything, do to others what you would have them do to you. . . .”
- Let nothing be done in strife or vainglory. Esteem others higher than ourselves **Phil 2:3**

Abhor evil, cling to good... there's some things we want to hold onto but, we can't because it's out of order.

### **Ephesians 5:1-20 (NLT) Living in the Light**

*Imitate God, therefore, in everything you do, because you are his dear children. **2** Live a life filled with love, following the example of Christ. He loved us[a] and offered himself as a sacrifice for us, a pleasing aroma to God. **3** Let there be no sexual immorality, impurity, or greed among you. Such sins have no place among God's people. **4** Obscene stories, foolish talk, and coarse jokes—these are not for you. Instead, let there be thankfulness to God. **5** You can be sure that no immoral, impure, or greedy person will inherit the Kingdom of Christ and of God. For a greedy person is an idolater, worshiping the things of this world. **6** Don't be fooled by those who try to excuse these sins, for the anger of God will fall on all who disobey him. **7** Don't participate in the things these people do. **8** For once you were full of darkness, but now you have light from the Lord. So live as people of light! **9** For this light within you produces only what is good and right and true. **10** Carefully determine what pleases the Lord. **11** Take no part in the worthless deeds of evil and darkness; instead, expose them. **12** It is shameful even to talk about the things that ungodly people do in secret. **13** But their evil intentions will be exposed when the light shines on them, **14** for the light makes everything visible. This is why it is said, “Awake, O sleeper, rise up from the dead, and Christ will give you light.” **15** So be careful how you live. Don't live like fools, but like those who are wise. **16** Make the most of every opportunity in these evil days. **17** Don't act thoughtlessly, but understand what the Lord wants you to do. **18** Don't be drunk with wine, because that will ruin your life. Instead, be filled with the Holy Spirit, **19** singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs among yourselves, and making music to the Lord in your hearts. **20** And give thanks for everything to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.*

## ENDNOTES

1 <https://www.pureflix.com/insider/20-bible-verses-about-loving-yourself>