

3.1.09

week 1

RELATIONSHIPS

birthdays & blacklists

- We must build with the right foundation.
- We need to be SECURE in who we are in Christ and in our ultimate purpose.

1. We were created by God to bring Him glory.

Isa. 43:7 everyone who is called by my name, **whom I created for my glory**, whom I formed and made." ESV (emphasis added)

Eph. 1:11-12 In him we have obtained an inheritance, having been predestined according to the purpose of him who works all things according to the counsel of his will, so that we who were the first to hope in Christ might be **to the praise of his glory**. ESV(emphasis added)

1 Corinthians 10:31 So, whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, **do all to the glory of God**. ESV (emphasis added)

2. We are important to God himself!

- Our purpose in life is to fulfill the reason God created us...to glorify him.
- We are to **enjoy God** and take delight in him and in our relationship to him.

John 10:10 Jesus says, "...I have come that they might have life and have it to the full." NIV

3. When we bring glory to God we can experience fullness of joy.

- Don't worry, Be happy!

Ps. 16:11 You make known to me the path of life; **in your presence there is fullness of joy**; at your right hand are pleasures forevermore. ESV (emphasis added)

- "Fullness of joy is found in knowing God and delighting in the excellence of his character." Wayne Grudem

4. Here is the amazing thing! As we glorify God and enjoy Him, Scripture tells us that He rejoices over us!

Isa. 62:5and as the bridegroom rejoices over the bride, so shall your God rejoice over you. ESV

Zephaniah 3:17-18

....he will rejoice over you with gladness; he will quiet you by his love; he will exult over you with loud singing.....ESV

Correct understanding of this truth has very practical results!

1 Peter 1:8 Though you have not seen him, you love him. Though you do not now see him, you believe in him and rejoice with joy that is inexpressible and filled with glory,

5. God has to change the way we think before we can change the way we act!

2 Cor. 10: 3-5 3For though we live in the world, we do not wage war as the world does. 4The weapons we fight with are not the weapons of the world. On the contrary, they have divine power to demolish strongholds. 5We demolish arguments and every pretension that sets itself up against the knowledge of God, and we take captive every thought to make it obedient to Christ.

Major hindrance to relationship with God and others is INSECURITY.

It brings death to intimacy.

Focus on self rather than God and his purposes.

So What?

You can be free! You can know significance. You can feel Gods love and acceptance. You can be SECURE in CHRIST. You can relate differently! How? By confessing sin and by receiving God's abundant provision of grace!

We are to relate to each other as God relates to us. All based on grace!

Eph. 2:8 For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, 9 not a result of works, so that no one may boast. ESV
