

SERMON NOTES - Childish Relationships

These notes are designed to be read along with the associated audio / video message

1Co 13:11 HNV - "When I was a child, I spoke as a child, I felt as a child, I thought as a child. Now that I have become a man, I have put away **childish** things."

1. BRIEF RECAP - We must be childLIKE not Childish

Mar 10:15 NKJV — "Assuredly, I say to you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God as a little child (CHILDLIKE) will by no means enter it."

1 Co 14:20 (NKJV) "Brethren, do not be children in **understanding**; however, in **malice** be babes, but in **understanding** be mature."

"Childlikeness" = TRUST, HUMILITY, DEPENDENCE, INNOCENCE, PURITY

2. We must PUT AWAY Childish things.

We must be intentional and ruthless. In order to do this we must know what these childish things are, AND keep the childlike things.

3. When I was a child I had CHILDISH RELATIONSHIPS

3.1 FAMILY & ENEMIES

1Jo 2:12-14 NKJV — "12 I write to you, little children (*teknion*), Because your sins are forgiven you for His name's sake. 13 I write to you, fathers (*pater*), Because you have known Him who is from the beginning.

I write to you, young men (*neaniskos*), Because you have overcome the wicked one.

I write to you, little children (*paidion*), Because you have known the Father (*pater*). 14 I have written to you, fathers (*pater*), Because you have known Him who is from the beginning. I have written to you, young men (*neaniskos*), Because you are strong, and the word of God abides in you, And you have overcome the wicked one."

1Jo 5:1 NKJV — "1 Whoever believes that Jesus is the Christ is born of God, and everyone who loves Him who begot also loves him who is begotten of Him."

1Jo 5:1 NLT — "1 Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ has become a child of God. And everyone who loves the Father loves his children, too."

3.2. When I was a child I didn't have CHILDREN OF MY OWN (I wasn't a TEACHER / MENTOR to anyone)

Heb 5:12-14 NKJV - "12 For though by this time you ought to be teachers, you need someone to teach you again the first principles of the oracles of God; and you have come to need milk and not solid food. 13 For everyone who partakes only of milk is unskilled in the word of righteousness, for he is a babe. 14 But solid food belongs to those who are of full age, that is, those who by reason of use have their senses exercised to discern both good and evil."

Signs of childishness:

- I am being taught more than I am teaching
- I am being studying the "basic 6" (Heb 6:1-2) over and over
- I am unskilled in studying the Bible
- I haven't allowed His word to work itself out in my life in "righteousness" yet

Signs of a teacher / adult christian:

Jas 3:1, 13-18 NKJV - "1 My brethren, let not many of you become teachers, knowing that we shall receive a stricter judgement. ... 13 Who is wise and understanding among you? Let him show by good conduct that his works are done in the meekness of wisdom. 14 But if you have bitter envy and self-seeking in your hearts, do not boast and lie against the truth. 15 This wisdom does not descend from above, but is earthly, sensual, demonic. 16 For where envy and self-seeking exist, confusion and every evil thing are there. 17 But the wisdom that is from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, willing to yield, full of mercy and good fruits, without partiality

and without hypocrisy. 18 Now the fruit of righteousness is sown in peace by those who make peace."

Teachers with wisdom have developed the "fruit of righteousness" and they can pass this on as wisdom in the form of tasty fruit to other believers

OTHER VERSES USED:

The Holy Spirit Is Called The "Spirit Of Jesus" - Philippians 1:19, Rom 8:9, Gal 4:6, 1Pe 1:11, Act 16:7, Jn 14:16-19

1Co 6:10 NIV - "10 nor thieves nor the greedy nor drunkards nor slanderers nor swindlers will inherit the kingdom of God."

2Co 10:4-5 NKJV - "4 For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal but mighty in God for pulling down strongholds, 5 casting down arguments and every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God, bringing every thought into captivity to the obedience of Christ,"

2Ti 2:15 NKJV - "15 Be diligent to present yourself approved to God, a worker who does not need to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth."

Gal 5:22-23 - The fruit of the Spirit

Small group discussion guidelines

Remember that the aim of the small group is to foster discussion and community, rather than for the leader or one individual to preach to everyone.

1 - Often an **Icebreaker question** is a great way to start discussion. You could ask a question like:

- What were the highs or lows of your week?
- What is your earliest memory?
- If you had to describe yourself as one animal, what would it be and why?
- What is your favourite type of holiday destination?

2 - Next, **read the passage**. You can ask various people in the group to help by each reading a portion of the passage.

3 - These are the **main questions** to ask to understand the passage:

- What is the main message of this talk / passage?
Allow discussion and even diverging from the main topic if it is helpful.
- What did you find particularly helpful or challenging?
- What did you not fully understand?
- What can we do **PRACTICALLY** in response to this teaching?

4 - Close by offering **prayer** for each person.

- Ask, "how can we pray for you / each other now?"
- Ask each person to pray or you, as leader, pray for each person's need

The blessing and opportunity in Small Groups is the possibility for...

- Each person to contribute and/or ask questions,
- People to pray for each other and to ask for prayer,
- People to learn to use and grow in their gifts,
- Community, friendship and intimacy in relationships.

God Bless you in this very important ministry.