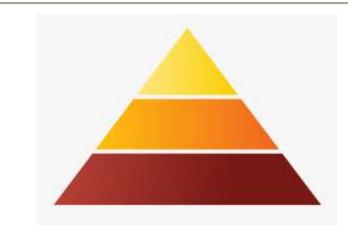


Sunday, August 8, 2021 AVBC



A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another, even as I have loved you, that you also love one another. By this all men will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."(John 13:34,35)

1. HONOUR YOUR _____ AND _____.

-Exodus 20, Proverbs 1:8-9; 10:1; 15:5,20; 20:20; 23:22; 30:17

2. BE _____ TO OTHERS.

Don't be selfish; don't live to make a good impression on others. Be humble, thinking of others as better than yourself. Don't think only about your own affairs, but be interested in others, too, and what they are doing. (Phil. 2:3,4)

-Proverbs 11:17; 14:21; 3:27-28; 24:11-12

3. KEEP YOUR _____ SHUT.

There are seven things that the LORD hates and cannot tolerate: a proud look, a lying tongue, hands that kill innocent people, a mind that thinks up wicked plans, feet that hurry off to do evil, a witness who tells one lie after another, and someone who stirs up trouble among friends. (Proverbs 6:16-19) (Proverbs 11:13; 16:28; 17:9)

4. _____ CAUTIOUSLY

-Proverbs 27:5,6

An honest answer is a sign of true friendship. (Proverbs 24:26)

5. CHOOSE YOUR _____ CAREFULLY.

-Prov. 2:12,16, 20; 4:14-17; 12:26; 13:20; 19:11; 24:1,21; 25:19; 27:10; 29:3,25

Some friendships do not last, but some friends are more loyal than brothers. (Proverbs 18:24) (GNT)

When we were utterly helpless, Christ came at just the right time and died for us sinners...But God showed his great love for us by sending Christ to die for us while we were still sinners...For since we were <u>restored to friendship</u> with God by the death of his Son while we were still his enemies, we will certainly be delivered from eternal punishment by his life. So now we can rejoice in our <u>wonderful new relationship with</u> <u>God</u> —all because of what our Lord Jesus Christ has done for us in making us <u>friends</u> <u>of God</u>." (Romans 5:6, 8,10-11) (NLT)

DIGGING DEEPER

(For use in personal/family devotions or with your care group)

Q1: Did you have a "best friend" when you were growing up? If so, describe that person. Q2: Read I Cor. 13:1-3 & Matt. 5:23-24. What do these passages teach us about the importance of relationships as compared to other important issues of life?

Q3: What kind of relationship did you have with your parents? Has the Lord provided you with other "parent-type people"? If so, how have they impacted your life? How do you value and honour them?

Q4: Read Proverbs 26:20, II Cor. 12:20 and I Thess. 4:11-12. What do these verses tell us about confidentiality?

Q5: Read Matthew 22:34-40. One way of summarizing this passage is as follows: "To God, nothing matters more than relationships." Do you agree/disagree with this summary? Why? Q6. Consider these five "Steps to Care-fronting". Do you agree/disagree? Why?

- ✓ Be open to correction yourself
- ✓ Confront only when really necessary (Prov. 26:17)
- ✓ Correct in private (Compliment in public ☺)
- ✓ Balance concerns with compliments
- ✓ Correct when people are up