

John 15:8-17 &
Philippians 2:25-30

Kingdom Relationships

Brother (Sister)

Fellow Worker

Fellow Soldier



Shoreline Vineyard Church

Sept 15, 2024

Philippians 2:25-30

²⁵ I have thought it necessary to send to you Epaphroditus my brother and fellow worker and fellow soldier, and your messenger and minister to my need,²⁶ for he has been longing for you all and has been distressed because you heard that he was ill. ²⁷ Indeed he was ill, near to death.

But God had mercy on him, and not only on him but on me also, lest I should have sorrow upon sorrow. ²⁸ I am the more eager to send him, therefore, that you may rejoice at seeing him again, and that I may be less anxious.

²⁹ So ^greceive him in the Lord with all joy, and ^hhonor such men, ³⁰ for he nearly died⁶ ⁱfor the work of Christ, risking his life ^{it}o complete what was lacking in your service to me.

Let's Pray

Previous Weeks

“Small Topics like selfishness, pride, insecurity, resentment; God’s solutions of selflessness, humility, love, forgiveness.”
(Spoiler alert: common themes ahead!)

John 15:8-17 & Philippians 2:25-30



Our Destination

How does God's work in our lives shape the quality of our relationships?

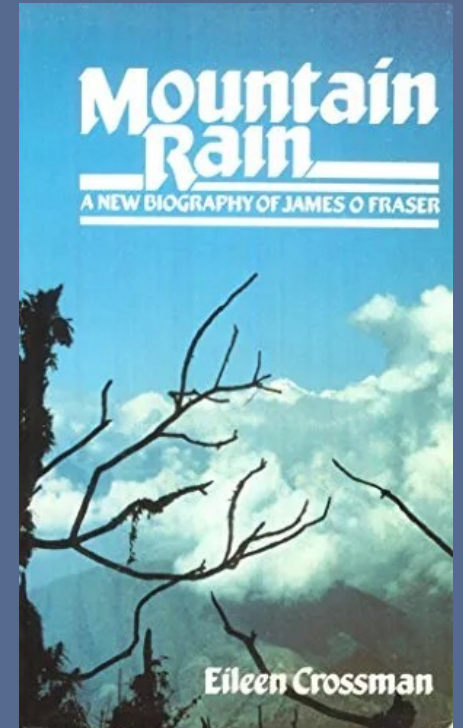
Prayer: Awaken in us a deep hunger to experience more of You, and the life of love and joy You call us to.

Examples in my life

James Fraser in *Mountain Rain*
Helen Roseveare

The Principle of Sacrifice

There is no success without sacrifice. If you succeed without sacrifice it is because someone has suffered before you. If you sacrifice without success it is because someone will succeed after. — Adoniram Judson



Jesus' Words Set Our Expectations

Israelites, OT

The Church, NT and Jesus' words

Reset our expectations

John 15

John 15

9 As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Abide in my love. 10 If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. 11 These things I have spoken to you, that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be full.

12 “This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. 13 Greater love has no one than this, that someone lay down his life for his friends. 14 You are my friends if you do what I command you. 15 No longer do I call you servants,^[a] for the servant does not know what his master is doing; but I have called you friends, for all that I have heard from my Father I have made known to you.

16 You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you that you should go and bear fruit and that your fruit should abide, so that whatever you ask the Father in my name, he may give it to you. 17 These things I command you, so that you will love one another.



Jesus Words

Fruit

Why?

Chosen

Friends

Love



Love

Love: Steadfast, sacrificial zeal that seeks the true good of another.

Grace: Steadfast, sacrificial zeal that seeks the true good of an enemy.

Chesed, the Old Covenant word describing God's covenantal love relationship with His chosen people.

It is God helping us make our long way back from our Fall in the Garden

The 4 A's of Relationships

Acceptance

Affirmation

Accountability

Authority

Stage 1

Acceptance & Affirmation

Deepening Relationships:
Purposeful, Fruitful

Stage 2

Affirmation & Accountability

Stage 3

Accountability & Authority

Stage 4

Accountability
& Acceptance



The 4 A's of Relationships

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Affirmation

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Brother
(Sister)

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Stage 1

Acceptance & Affirmation

Stage 2

Affirmation & Accountability

Stage 3

Accountability & Authority

Stage 4

Accountability
& Acceptance

Deepening Relationships:
Purposeful, Fruitful

Paul's 4 Examples

Jesus, Emptied Savior, vs. 5-11

Paul, Sacrificing Rejoicer, vs. 1-16

Timothy, Single-Minded Servant, vs. 19-24

Epaphroditus, Loving Risk-Taker, vs. 25-30



Background

Philippi

Epaphroditus

Philippians 2

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Who was Epaphroditus to Paul?

My Brother **Common Life**

My Fellow Worker **Common Effort**

My Fellow Soldier **Common Enemy**

Who was Epaphroditus to Paul?

My Brother How deep will our relationships go?

My Fellow Worker What will He call you/us to build?

My Fellow Soldier How will we fight?

Who was Epaphroditus to the Philippians?

Your Messenger

Philippian Church's apostle

Your Minister

Philippian Church's priest

What is your first step?

What is our next step?