

6/20/21

att 38
FB 4

Sermon – Proper Relations

Scripture - John 14:6, Mark 3:28-29, Mathew 10:28

Main Message: People... who can understand them.

Relationships can be complicated. Family, friends, coworkers, all bring differences of opinions. Sometimes it's just, plain, hard. You wouldn't think it had to be that way, but it is. We are all different on the scale from extrovert to introvert. Do you know who you are? Are you fonder of large groups or smaller ones? Do you like to just sit and listen, or be heard? Most people have a sense of their preferences, but I have also seen people deceive themselves. It is because of the differences that we all have that more things can be accomplished as long as we respect differences.

There is another relationship that we should consider and that is with the Holy Trinity of God. First, to have a close relationship with God the Father, we would need to first have one with Jesus Christ. He is the pathway to the Father. Jesus made that abundantly clear in a single verse {John 14:6} *"I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the father except through me."* So, as we know, we must have this relationship with Christ figured out and in place first. He bore our sins and all that is required is belief on our part to accept this grace. If you don't have this relationship with Jesus, you aren't going anywhere good. Another verse spoken by Jesus is {John 10:9} *I am the gate; whoever enters through me will be saved. They will come in and go out, and find pasture.* This understanding, belief and action of what Christ has done for us is vital. Let me remind you that a healthy relationship requires some amount of commitment, otherwise you aren't really in a relationship. What is your relationship with Jesus Christ? Is it a backburner need when you are in trouble, or a front burner flame that is lit always?

Now consider this. The Holy Spirit of God is also very important. It is the Holy Spirit that moves someone mysteriously to acceptance of God's grace. It convicts us of sin by demonstrating the undeniable truths of God's existence. The Holy Spirit teaches us on the pathway to righteousness and works on our hearts and minds to mature. It is the indwelling Holy Spirit that gives us comfort in our time of need, boldness in our time of challenge, and courage when all things in this world fail us. The Holy Spirit is that small voice that pings our conscience when we get lax and we can shut it out and ignore it. Sadly, we do that too often. The Holy Spirit is not to be ignored. It is the single eternal sin that cannot be forgiven which is to blaspheme the Holy Spirit of God. **Read Mark 3:28-29** So, what kind of relationship do you have with the Holy Spirit of God? Are you actively listening, passively listening, aware of your need and asking for guidance? It is the Spirit that speaks to us while we walk this earth.

Jesus taught us how to pray to God and he taught us that it is our Father. This is a Father of great Love and well skilled. He is the creator of all things, including and especially us. The creation of you by HIM was called VERY GOOD by GOD THE FATHER. He is approachable only through Jesus because it is Jesus that covers our sin so that the HOLY one can be approached. His Will, well, will be done. He has established the plan for man's redemption and He will see it done. We cannot fathom his ways, but we are to trust in Him just as we trust Jesus and should learn to listen and trust the Holy Spirit. Only God can have power over our soul. **Read Mathew 10:28.** If you believe in the Son, then you automatically have a relationship with God the Father which is an eternal relationship. How is your relationship with God the Father. You can't ignore Him. Your active prayer life establishes this relationship.

Like any relationship, there is a give and take, but love for those who diligently seek Him will be the main ingredient. Sometimes that Love comes in the way of spanking to put you back on the course. We should be subordinate to God so that we can benefit from creative wisdom. We resist that to our pain. We should be close, sharing in all honesty and confessing our sins before Him which truly knows all things. Sometimes He will put you in authority over something. Be sure to utilize it well. Listen to the Holy Spirit. Do what is right.

Your relationship with the Triune God need not be difficult and cumbersome, but filled with life and goodness. One of my favorite scriptures is from Romans. It brings great comfort to those who need this message.

Read Romans 8:38-39.