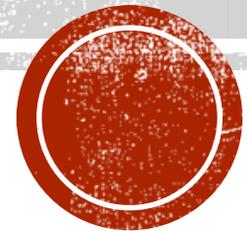


CHARACTER UNDER CONSTRUCTION

Definition of Character

- The mental and moral qualities distinctive to an individual.
- Definition of character : the way someone thinks, feels, and behaves : someone's personality. - A set of qualities that are shared by many people in a group, country, etc.



RELATIONSHIPS

■ Scriptures:

- - Iron sharpens iron, and one man sharpens another. - Proverbs 27:17
- - Wounds from a friend can be trusted, but an enemy multiplies kisses.
- - If anyone says, “I love God,” and hates his brother, he is a liar; for he who does not love his brother whom he has seen cannot love God whom he has not seen. I John 4:20



34 But when the Pharisees heard that he had silenced the Sadducees, they gathered together.

35 And one of them, a lawyer, asked him a question to test him.

36 "Teacher, which is the great commandment in the Law?"

37 And he said to him, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.

38 This is the great and first commandment.

39 And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself.

40 On these two commandments depend all the Law and the Prophets." - Matthew 22:34-40



LOOK AT THREE AREAS

- 1. Priorities of relationships.
- 2. Problems in relationships
- 3. Fixing relationships



1. PRIORITIES OF RELATIONSHIPS.

- Three listed relationships: Love God. Love ourselves. Love our neighbor.
- 1. God
 - First priority. Get this right other relationships have a chance. Not guaranteed but have a chance. We were created for relationship with God. We will worship something, serve someone, live for something! God invites us into a relationship with himself.
 - Why did God create the world?
 - "God is most Glorified, when I am most satisfied in Him."
 - - that is true, then there is no conflict between your greatest exhilaration and God's greatest glorification.



■ **2. Family**

- Marriage, fathers, mothers, husbands & wives. Other than being created by God, family shapes who we are and what we are.

■ **3. Church**

- “Much of society has decided that we don’t have what they need, so they stay away—in droves. They need to experience the gospel. To see it lived out in ways that impact their lives, overcome their skepticism and thaw their cynicism. Only love—generous and unconditional—will do that.”



■ 4. World

- It's been said that the world hates the church, because the church hates the world.
- Unless the above order of priority is honored one's life becomes out of balance and happiness eludes us.
- Where does your job appear on the list? Many women place their priority on Children (mothering) while too many pastors place their priority on the ministry.



2. PROBLEMS IN RELATIONSHIPS

- **Unresolved Offences**
- **Un-forgiveness**
- **Uncontrolled tongue**
- **Unwise actions or conduct**
- **Unfulfilled expectations**



3. FIXING BROKEN RELATIONSHIPS

- Confront - without delay
- Compromise – willing to confront
- Commitment – make the commitment



CONCLUSION

- Jesus says that our first priority was to have a proper vertical relationship with God, and then, a proper horizontal relationship with our fellow man.
- How are your relationships?

