

June 19, 2011

Rethink Relationships: Hidden Conflict, Bill Warrick

Ephesians 6:10-18

1. What is a cherished memory of a dad (yours or other) that you recall or what lesson or lessons do you remember learning from your dad? **Open answer.**
2. From our study in Ephesians from Mother's Day to Father's Day a key word throughout has been "submit". Define the word submit. **The idea of submission is to consider others needs and desires before your own...putting others first...the picture Paul paints in Philippians 2:1-11 is Jesus living out what He desires us to do. Read Phil.2:1-11 and identify how our attitudes can be the same as that of Christ Jesus.**
3. What are the relational conflicts Paul writes about in chapters 4, 5 and 6? **Chapter 4 talks about conflict within the body of Christ. 5 talks about the conflict in marriage between a man and woman. 6 refers to conflict between children and parents and masters and slaves (or in our current context employer and employee).**
4. What is the hidden conflict? **Read v. 12. The conflict is a not flesh and blood...people against people, but the hidden conflict is spiritual between Satan and us.**
5. Why is this a hidden conflict? **We either don't believe he exists or we don't take him seriously. Yet, every New Testament writer writes about him as real and dangerous.**
6. What are Satan's tactics? **Primarily, he is a thief and a deceiver, so he is working undercover and part of his plan is to keep us unaware of his presence and tactics. Also, Satan is an accuser...in a very general sense, as opposed to God who lovingly convicts in specifics.**
7. How have you been stolen from, deceived and accused by Satan? **Open answer.**
8. How do we "dress for success" to battle this spiritual battle? **Put on the Armor of God! Read Eph. 6:14-18. Identify each article. Belt of truth. Breastplate of righteousness. Shoes of the gospel of peace. Shield of faith. Helmet of Salvation. Sword of the Spirit. And pray in the Spirit.**
9. What would this look like for you tomorrow morning? **James 4:7 says have an attitude of submit to God and resist the devil and he will flee! Start the day in Christ...worship, scripture reading, prayer...prayer throughout the day, finish the day submitting to God again and resist the devil.**
10. ***Editor's note: these are the last questions posted until September 18th. Have a great summer!***