

June 12, 2011

Rethink Relationships: The Look of Love, Bill Warrick

Ephesians 4:31-5:2

1. How have you received or demonstrated grace in your relationships this week to others in the marketplace, family, or friendships? **Open answer.**
2. What did Bill say is the literal meaning of the Greek word “forgive” in 4:31? **Show or give grace to someone.**
3. Read Ephesians 4:31-5:20. What are some of the behaviors that Jesus demonstrated when he walked the earth that we are now commanded to follow in as his disciples? **Walk in love, give yourself up for others, Get rid of all bitterness, rage and anger, brawling and slander, along with every form of malice. Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you.**
4. Read Ephesians 5:21-33. Why are we called to submit to one another? What does it look like to submit to one another? **We put them above us, ahead of us. We care for their needs before we meet ours, serve them, etc.**
5. What is the standard of our forgiveness and love for one another? **The level which Jesus has loved and forgiven us.** How can we possibly live up to that standard of action towards others? **We can’t, unless we are filled with Christ himself. Only Jesus can love others that way through us.**
6. What is the primary image Paul uses in verses 13-16? What point is he trying to make regarding relationships? **We need to mature and grow up in our relationships and our communication with each other.** What role does spoken communication play in growing and maturing our relationships? **Words have the power to build up and support our relationships. Words have creative power (see Genesis 1 where God SPOKE the worlds into existence.)**
7. Read Ephesians 4:17-32. What other communication commands are given by God for us? **It’s a garbage in garbage out issue. After our hearts become hard, we loose sensitivity and indulge in every kind of impurity.** What negative things are we told to put off, put away, get rid of and then what positive things are we told to put on or add? **Unwholesome talk, bitterness, rage, anger, brawling...etc. see v. 31.**
8. What are the 4 D’s of relationships Bill mentioned from Ephesians? **Chap 4:31 &32 Declaration about Relationships, Chap. 5:1&2 Demand on Relationships, 5:3-14 Destroy Relationships, V. 21 submit Design for Relationships.**
9. What does this mean to you and what are you going to do about it? **Open answer.** What will you do this week so you’ll know if you are submitting to the people you love? **Open answer.**
10. What does love look like walking around in your life? **Open answer.** What are we saying and doing to reflect Jesus in our lives and the grace he has extended to us? **Open answer.**