

## Father's Day Message

June 20th, 2021

### " How to Be Responsive in Our Relationships"

Intro:

- Happy Father's Day!
  - Honor my dad!
  
- Today, I want to help us Men / Husbands / Dads!!!
  - But the concept I want to share is FOR ALL OF US!!
    - B/c it will work in EVERY Relationship you have!
    - So, everyone, pay attention b/c this can help you! Esp. Men!!!
  
- "How to be Responsive in our Relationships!!!"
  - The Key to Healthy Relationships is Responsiveness.
    - When we Follow the Way of Jesus, we have the Benefit of knowing how to be Responsive in our Relationships!

PRAY

**Ephesians 5:25 " Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her..."**

- Men, we are called to love our wives & to do so with the Example Jesus set for us!
  - So, I want to give us 3 Ways to "Love our Wives" by Learning how to be Responsive to them...

### Responsiveness is 3 things:

**1. Understand** - We feel understood when we are SEEN!

- A. Every wife wants her husband to **SEE** her the way she sees herself.
  - Men, Picture your wife as if she is wearing a big sign that says, "SEE ME!"
    - When she walks in the door after a long day at work or
    - With the kids & groceries, she's wearing this sign: "See Me!"

- She's saying: "...*Understand the day I've had.*"

**2. Validate** - We feel Validated when we are ACCEPTED!

A. The root word of Validate is VALUE!

- Our wife wants to feel that we VALUE her perspective & opinion, even if we can't relate to it!
- Our brains don't work the same!
- Sarah & I are diff. in Every way!

B. Validation says, "I "Accept" you for who she is."

- We're not trying to "Fix" them or change them, we must Understand & accept that what they're feeling & going through is "VALID."

C. MIP: Men, Our Wife is wearing a Big Sign every day that says, "ACCEPT ME!" & My perspective, even if you don't fully understand it.

**3. Care** - We feel loved, supported & cared for when we are HELPED!  
- But NOT the Help we think she needs & we want to give, but the Help SHE wants & needs!  
- HELP ME!  
- ? Don't we always feel "Cared for" when someone helps us?

Responsiveness:

Understand	- See
Validate	- Accept
Care	- Help

- Let me show you in the Life of Jesus...

**\* Jesus was the Master of Responsiveness in Relationships!**

\* Jairus, the Synagogue Leader.

- His daughter was sick...

**Mark 5:21 "When Jesus had again crossed over by boat to the other side of the lake, a large crowd gathered around him while he was by the lake. Then one of the synagogue leaders, named Jairus, came, and when he saw Jesus, he fell at his feet. He pleaded earnestly with him, "My little daughter is dying. Please come and put your hands on her so that she will be healed and live." So Jesus went with him."**

- 1) Jesus saw the man & listened.**
- 2) Jesus accepted him by validating his situation.**
- 3) Jesus helped him by healing his daughter.**

**- Look what happens next... another woman with an issue...**

**v. 25-28 "And a woman was there who had been subject to bleeding for twelve years. She had suffered a great deal under the care of many doctors and had spent all she had, yet instead of getting better she grew worse. When she heard about Jesus, she came up behind him in the crowd and touched his cloak, because she thought, "If I just touch his clothes, I will be healed."**

**v. 29-30 "Immediately her bleeding stopped and she felt in her body that she was freed from her suffering. At once Jesus realized that power had gone out from him. He turned around in the crowd and asked, "Who touched my clothes?"**

**v. 31 "You see the people crowding against you," his disciples answered, "and yet you can ask, 'Who touched me?'"**

**- This woman interrupts with her need & the Disciples didn't SEE her, but Jesus did!**

**v. 32-34 "But Jesus kept looking around to see who had done it. Then the woman, knowing what had happened to her, came and fell at his feet and, trembling with fear, told him the whole truth. He said to her, "Daughter, your faith has healed you. Go in peace and be freed from your suffering."**

- 1) Jesus saw her.**
- 2) Jesus accepted her & validated her situation.**
- 3) Jesus helped her by healing her.**

**\* The Blind Beggar.**

- This guy is an outcast, nobody "sees" him!
- They try & not let him be seen...

**Luke 18:35-39 "As Jesus approached Jericho, a blind man was sitting by the roadside begging. When he heard the crowd going by, he asked what was happening. They told him, "Jesus of Nazareth is passing by." He called out, "Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!" Those who led the way rebuked him and told him to be quiet, but he shouted all the more, "Son of David, have mercy on me!"**

- He calls out to Jesus - the Crowd doesn't want to SEE him.

**v. 40 "Jesus stopped and ordered the man to be brought to Him. When he came near, Jesus asked him, "What do you want me to do for you?"**

- 1) Jesus saw him by listening to him, not just by walking by.
- 2) Jesus accepted him or validated him by calling for him to come.
- 3) Jesus helped him by healing him.

**? Do you see the Responsiveness?**

- See, Accept, Help!      See, Accept, Help!

**MIP: Men, this is the Model for us with our Wives & our Kids!!!**

- We must SEE them, ACCEPT them, & HELP them where they are.

**1. Seeing looks like Listening.**

**2. Accepting looks like Validating their Feelings.**

**3. Helping looks like coming along side of them & assisting in whatever way THEY need.**

**\* One Caviat... The Order Matters!!!**

- Men, Don't try & fix before they feel "Seen" & "Accepted."
- When we rush to the "Fixing" we leave out the Other 2!!!
- Rushing to Fix "Feels" Non-Responsive!!!

**\* The Opposite of Responsiveness is Non-Responsiveness.**

- The disciples were good at Missing the Cues & Not being Responsive!!!

- Men, so are we ALOT of the time!!!

- She walks in the door distraught & we don't even notice.

- She describes a new interest or passion & we seem uninterested or dismissive.

- She needs a hug or a soothing comment & instead we give her a blank stare or never look up from our phone.

- Speak to Women: "Ladies, you elbowing your man right now or passing a judgmental glance is NOT going to help him right now!!!"

- Let me do the teaching & the H.S. do the convicting!

**\* When we feel Unseen, Unaccepted & Unhelped, it makes us feel UNSAFE.**

**\* Mary & Martha ILL.**

- Martha felt Unseen, Unaccepted & Unhelped...

Luke 10:38-39 "As Jesus and his disciples were on their way, he came to a village where a woman named Martha opened her home to him. She had a sister called Mary, who sat at the Lord's feet listening to what he said.

v. 40 "But Martha was distracted by all the preparations that had to be made. She came to him and asked, "Lord, don't you care that my sister has left me to do the work by myself? Tell her to help me!"

- When she thought Jesus didn't SEE what she was doing, ACCEPT her efforts & wasn't helping her, she thought He didn't CARE!!!

v. 41-42 "Martha, Martha," the Lord answered, "you are worried and upset about many things, but few things are needed—or indeed only one."

1) Jesus saw her: "Martha, Martha." (Slow down, look me in the eyes)

2) Jesus validated her: "You are worried & upset..."

3) Jesus helped her: "Come sit down & receive my love & care."

- In every interaction & Relationship Jesus had, we can see these 3 Components!!!

**Ephesians 5:25 " Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her..."**

**\* Apply it to ALL of us: In every interaction & relationship we ALL have, these 3 components make all the difference!!**

**- SEE, ACCEPT, HELP in the way THEY need it!**

**So what about us?**

**? How are we doing at:**

**1) Seeing... our Spouse? our Kids?**

**2) Accepting... right where they are.**

**- Not trying to change them or fix them.**

**3) Helping... them "get what they want or need" in that moment?**

**PRAY**