



EVERYONE'S ENGAGED WITH EMPATHY

1 Corinthians 12:25

Fighting for the Future of Our Family:

- 1) Everyone's Service Is Significant (1 Corinthians 12:21)
- 2) Everyone's Fighting for The Common Good (1 Corinthians 12:25)
- 3) Everyone's Engaged Through Empathy (1 Corinthians 12:25)

1 Corinthians 12:20-21, ²⁰ As it is, there are many parts, but one body. ²¹ The eye cannot say to the hand, "I don't need you!" And the head cannot say to the feet, "I don't need you!"

Matthew 19:6

According to Gallup's poll the divorce rate of couples who pray together regularly is 1 out of 1,152. (Less than 1/10th of 1%)

Focus on the Family: Five benefits of married couples praying regularly together:

- 1) Praying together promotes unity.
- 2) Praying together promotes good communication and emotional intimacy.
- 3) Praying together invites God to work in your relationship.
- 4) Praying together helps us trust God together.
- 5) Prayer together helps us lean on God together.

2 Timothy 4:9-14, ⁹ Do your best to come to me quickly, ¹⁰ for Demas, because he loved this world, has deserted me and has gone to Thessalonica. Crescens has gone to Galatia, and Titus to Dalmatia. ¹¹ Only Luke is with me. Get Mark and bring him with you, because he is helpful to me in my ministry . . . ¹⁴ Alexander the metalworker did me a great deal of harm. The Lord will repay him for what he has done.

Embracing Empathy that Empowers Life

1 Corinthians 12:24-26, ²⁴ . . . But God has put the body together, giving greater honor to the parts that lacked it, ²⁵ so that there should be no division in the body, but that its parts should have equal concern for each other. ²⁶ If one part suffers, every part suffers with it; if one part is honored, every part rejoices with it.

❖ Equal concern for one another births empathy!

Matthew 19:3-8, ³ Some Pharisees came to him to test him. They asked, "Is it lawful for a man to divorce his wife for any and every reason?" ⁴ "Haven't you read," he replied, "that at the beginning the Creator 'made them male and female,'⁵ and said, 'For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and the two will become one flesh'? ⁶ So they are no longer two, but one flesh. Therefore what God has joined together, let no one separate." ⁷ "Why then," they asked, "did Moses command that a man give his wife a certificate of divorce and send her away?" ⁸ Jesus replied, "Moses permitted you to divorce your wives because your hearts were hard. But it was not this way from the beginning."

How do we keep special relationships from spoiling?

- ❖ Recognize hardness of heart is the enemy's work.
- ❖ Practice relationships as God teaches throughout the bible.

Experiencing Empathy that Empowers Life

1) We LOVE ONE ANOTHER as Jesus loved.

John 13:33-35, ³³ "My children, I will be with you only a little longer . . . ³⁴ "A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. ³⁵ By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another."

John 17:20-21, 21:1-17

2) We SERVE ONE ANOTHER as Jesus served.

John 13:4-8, ⁴ so he got up from the meal, took off his outer clothing, and wrapped a towel around his waist. ⁵ After that, he poured water into a basin and began to wash his disciples' feet, drying them with the towel that was wrapped around him. ⁶ He came to Simon Peter, who said to him, "Lord, are you going to wash my feet?" ⁷ Jesus replied, "You do not realize now what I am doing, but later you will understand." ⁸ "No," said Peter, "you shall never wash my feet." Jesus answered, "Unless I wash you, you have no part with me."

3) We VALUE OTHERS life as Jesus did.

Matthew 8:1-4, ¹ When Jesus came down from the mountainside, large crowds followed him. ² A man with leprosy came and knelt before him and said, "Lord, if you are willing, you can make me clean." ³ Jesus reached out his hand and touched the man. "I am willing," he said. "Be clean!" Immediately he was cleansed of his leprosy. ⁴ Then Jesus said to him, "See that you don't tell anyone." . . .

John 7:1 (NLT); 2 Corinthians 11:26

Questions:

- 1) What did you hear from the Holy Spirit?
- 2) What will you do because of it?
- 3) How can we pray for you?