The Faithful Steward of Relationships Part 7

""Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, even so I am sending you." And when he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you withhold forgiveness from any, it is withheld. "John 20:21-23 Today we will look into God's view concerning the primary purposes of relationships.

1. Moody Method: Identify the need. We do not have to dig deep to find the needs in your community. Can you create a safe place for people to come talk through the pain and hardships?

- 2. Pray. Prayer should be the foundation of our works rather than the afterthought
- 3. Contribute to and build healthy churches. The church can be a powerful testimony of how Christ transforms people. What is your witness? Find your role in how you contribute to your church and encourage others in theirs. Our witness should be consistent in and outside the church doors.
- 4. Seek out training. Do you stay inside of your traditional comfort zone? Perhaps further training would help re-inspire you and challenge you to reach people in new ways.
- 5. Invite. Last, but perhaps most importantly, simply start inviting people. People want to feel seen and known.

- 1. Planting Growing Churches by Aubrey Malphurs: Pursuit: The church must pursue lost people, not wait for them to come to it.
- 2. Value: Lost people matter to God. So, they should matter to His church.
- 3. Relationship: We should spend time with lost people.
- 4. Need: The church can meet the needs of lost people.
- 5. Cultural Adaption: The church should adapt its practices, not its faith, to the people it's trying to reach.
- 6. Receptivity: "The church should pursue receptive lost people, those who might be interested in spiritual matters."
- 7. Responsiveness: "The church should not only pursue receptive lost people, it must pursue responsive lost people, those who are *interested* in spiritual truth."
- 8. Clear Communication & Multiple Hooks: The church must be careful to use language that clearly communicates biblical truth to the lost and use as many methods as possible/necessary.

In closing ...

The faithful steward of relationship remains primarily concerned with their relationship with Jesus- revealing the intimacy, depth, and love of that relationship with all others.

Digging Deeper

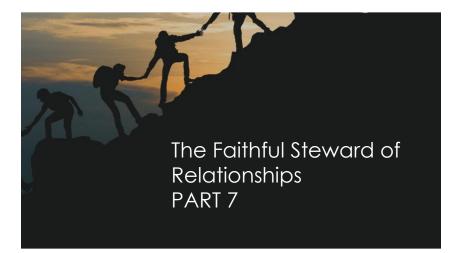
FOR FURTHER STUDY:

• How would you explain the Gospel in just ten words?

• How do you relate spiritual things to every day matters?

• How might you remove the fear of evangelism?

Series on The Faithful Steward



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