

SEQUOIA NOTES

Today's Sequoia Message...

Forging Resilient Relationships

With Ryan Dawson - Lead Pastor

October 9, 2022

Happy Thanksgiving!



- **Strong relational networks build resilient people & resilient faith disciples.**

- **As Wives - Cultivate inner beauty.**

1 Peter 3:1-6 (MSG) The same goes for you wives: Be good wives to your husbands, responsive to their needs. There are husbands who, indifferent as they are to any words about God, will be captivated by your life of holy beauty. What matters is not your outer appearance—the styling of your hair, the jewelry you wear, the cut of your clothes—but your inner disposition. ⁴⁻⁶ Cultivate inner beauty, the gentle, gracious kind that God delights in. The holy women of old were beautiful before God that way, and were good, loyal wives to their husbands. Sarah, for instance, taking care of Abraham, would address him as “my dear husband.” You’ll be true daughters of Sarah if you do the same, unanxious and unintimidated.

- **A life devoted to Christ radiates true beauty.**

Do we prioritize our outer wrapping more than our character development?

“Charm is deceptive, and [superficial] beauty does not last; but a woman who fears the LORD will be greatly praised.” Proverbs 31:29 (NLT)

- **As Husbands - Honour and delight in your wives.**

1 Peter 3:7 (NLT) “In the same way, you husbands must give honour to your wives. Treat your wife with understanding as you live together. She may be weaker than you are, but she is your equal partner in God’s gift of new life. Treat her as you should so your prayers will not be hindered.”

1 Peter 3:7 (MSG) The same goes for you husbands: Be good husbands to your wives. Honour them, delight in them. As women they lack some of your advantages. But in the new life of God’s grace, you’re equals. Treat your wives, then, as equals so your prayers don’t run aground.

- **As men, we are called to honour and elevate women.**

Do we power up as men believing that masculinity means dominance?

Do we use our advantages as men, to elevate women?

- **As the Church - Love each other as brothers and sisters.**

1 Peter 3:8-12 (NLT) Finally, all of you should be of one mind. Sympathize with each other. Love each other as brothers and sisters. Be tender-hearted, and keep a humble attitude. ⁹ Don’t repay evil for evil. Don’t retaliate with insults when people insult you. Instead, pay them back with a blessing. That is what God has called you to do, and he will grant you his blessing. ¹⁰ For the Scriptures say, “If you want to enjoy life and see many happy days, keep your tongue from speaking evil and your lips from telling lies. ¹¹ Turn away from evil and do good. Search for peace, and work to maintain it. ¹² The eyes of the Lord watch over those who do right, and his ears are open to their prayers. But the Lord turns his face against those who do evil.”

- **All of this is made possible by the Gospel of Jesus Christ.**

Philippians 2:3-11 (NLT) “Don’t be selfish; don’t try to impress others. Be humble, thinking of others as better than yourselves. ⁴ Don’t look out only for your own interests, but take an interest in others, too. ⁵ You must have the same attitude that Christ Jesus had. ⁶ Though he was God, he did not think of equality with God as something to cling to. ⁷ Instead, he gave up his divine privileges; he took the humble position of a slave and was born as a human being. When he appeared in human form, ⁸ he humbled himself in obedience to God and died a criminal’s death on a cross. ⁹ Therefore, God elevated him to the place of highest honour and gave him the name above all other names, ¹⁰ that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth,¹¹ and every tongue declare that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.”

Big Idea: Forge resilient relationships empowered by the Gospel, to reflect Christ to the world.

Practice: Forge meaningful, intergenerational relationships within the Church.

“Lord, what is the one thing you want me to hear & do today?”



Sequoia Impact Communities are where we
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Family of Servants on Mission.

To get plugged in email:

impactcommunities@sequoiachurch.org

Forging Resilient Relationships
#4 of 6 - October 9, 2022

- 1) Last week we talked about Cultivating Cultural Discernment from 1 Peter 2:12-18. We highlighted the prayer of Examen as a way to “live at home with Jesus and live well in the world.” Did you practice the prayer of Examen this week? How did that go for you? What has God been saying to you through this message?
- 2) Take time to have one person explain and the practice the 3 Circles Gospel Presentation or share their testimony.
- 3) Read 1 Peter 3:1-12. What is the **Context** for this passage? Where is this taking place in the book as a whole (what comes before or after)? Who is the writer / speaker and who are the recipients? Where does it fit in the Bible? What’s the theme of this chapter, or passage? What’s the historical and cultural context?
- 4) **Observation:** What “jumps out” in these passages? What interesting details do you observe? What questions come up about this passage?
- 5) **Meaning:** What was the meaning for the original recipients? What does it mean for us as we seek to create authentic Christian community? How does this challenge us if we are married, or desire to get married? How does this change the way we interact in the Church?
- 6) Read and reflect on Philippians 2:3-11. How does the Gospel, revealed in this passage, make authentic community possible in the Church?
- 7) **Application:** How is God speaking to you through these verses and through this message? What challenges or convicts you about this teaching? In what way is God asking you to prioritize relationships in your life?
- 8) What steps will you take this week to “forge resilient relationships”? What principles do you need to pass on to others this week?



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