

Intro (v17)

1. Order of Operation Matters

(1) Thunderstorms (3:50a)

1. Google - What is thunder?

How can it be hot & rain?

Why can I chew the air?

everywhere else is like this

(2) Harley Trips

1. Packing

2. starting

2. Soul Work before All Other Work

(1) My Failure

3. Christian Aspiration

(1) Whatever we do

(2) Word or deed

(3) For God

(4) Thankful Heart

Upcoming topics: Marriage, Children
Jobs, Ministry

I. Identity Before Activity (v12-13)

1. He Not Me (v12a)

(1) God's chosen one

We all want to be seen

Jn. 15:19 - If you were of the world, the world would love you as its own; but because you are not of the world, but I chose you out of the world, therefore the world hates you.

1. He desired you in God the Father
2. He pursued you in God the Son
3. He revived you in God the Spirit
4. You didn't find Jesus, Jesus found you!
5. This element of this order of operation is important in preventing us from orientating our activity to how other's see & perceive us.

(2) Holy = reserved; distinct; something other

1. **We all want to be part of something** (movement, idea, community)
2. Everyone belongs to the children of wrath

Eph. 2:3 - among whom we all once lived in the passions of our flesh, carrying out the desires of the body and the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, like the rest of mankind.

3. Our true belonging comes from the realization we don't belong.

4. You have been set apart

1 Pet. 2:9 - But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession...

6. This element of this order of operation is important in preventing us from orientating our activity to other's purposes for us, just to belong.

(3) Beloved = root agape

* We all want to be loved

1. Cliche = God loves us, but an important element of this order of operations is exactly "how" does He love us? So in case you don't know, or simply need regular reminding, like me:
2. Review - storage, phileo, eros
3. He does not love you like an exquisite dress, or a friend, or your family. He loves you like all these things, perfectly, and more.
4. This element of this order of operation is important in preventing us from orientating our activity to the affirmation & approval of others

2. How Not What (vs 12b-13)

- (1) What I mean by "how not what" is relationships are primarily about "how" they grow you, not "what" they do for you.
1. Help they provide
 2. Feelings they produce
 3. Experiences they promote

Prob. 27:17 - Iron sharpens iron, and one man sharpens another.

- (2) Hard truth:
The state of your relationships reveals the state of your faith.
- (3) Focusing on the "how" rather than the "what" is one of the ways you keep identity before activity

How Questions (vs.) What Statements



They're never there for me
They always do this
There is nothing I couldn't
Everything is all about

3. 7 "How's" of Relational Operation (120-13)

- (1) Compassionate Heart
How are they feeling?
- (2) Humility
How did I contribute?
- (3) Patience
How have I listened?
- (4) Kindness
How can I take the first step?
- (5) Meekness (self-importance)
How important is being right?
- (6) Bearing (\neq Tolerance)
How much can I handle and why?
- (7) Forgiving
How is my relationship with Jesus, really?

II. Love Before Like (v14-15)

1. Love is put on, not put out (v14a)

(1) Feeling or action?

1. In some ways both, some ways neither.

2. Love is what informs what we do & how we feel.

(2) Love is:

1 Corinthians 13:4-8 - Love is patient and kind; love does not envy or boast; it is not arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice at wrongdoing, but rejoices with the truth. Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. Love never ends

1 Jn. 4:7-8 - Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God, and whoever loves has been born of God and knows God. Anyone who does not love does not know God, because **God is love**.

Gal. 3:27 - For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ.

Rom 13:14 - But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

1. You have been 'dressed'
↳ Christ (dad's clothes)

(3) Biggest problem ↳ church-goers today:

1. Find a church they "like"
2. Why not find " " "you can love"

Jn. 13:35 - By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.

(4) Love is not what you put out

2. Love always starts with me not them (v14v-15)

(1) Jesus binds everything in your relationships

1. Sustainable
2. Healthy
3. Wise

(2) Harmony - completeness; maturity

1. 20 years between Chuck and I.
2. 2 weeks on the road in confined space
3. Different agendas
(Mt. St. Helens)
(Route 66)

Rom.12:15 - If possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all.

(3) Kingdom thinking:

1. 9 x's out of 10 = you're the problem w/ your relationships
2. "Love starts w/ me"
3. "Yeah, but they need to

* That's like before love

III. Authenticity Before Community (v16)

*Most will pursue community as a goal rather than the result

1. Community desires authentic transformation over religious piety (v16a) in our own lives

(1) Dwell → imperative (enoi-keo) = to inhabit

1. Tenants affect living conditions
2. Landlords evict bad tenants
3. What has taken up residence in your life/heart?

(2) Richly = distinct

1. It produces an authenticity about sin, pain, struggle, & hope that is distinct from the world
2. Wealth - we hold onto that authenticity more than to the community it produced

2. Community desires authentic discipleship over collective affinity (vibes)

(1) CCSR = affinity driven in 2009

(2) Most churches are driven by affinity:

1. A certain preacher
(so we don't post schedule)

2. A certain demographic
(so we don't have autonomous freedom to move between groups)

3. ~~A~~ certain style of music
(so we diversify)

(3) The Bible wants you to care more about what the relationship produces than what the relationship has in common

1. Teach - inform thinking

2. Admonish - inform living

3. Worship - authentic, impactful community that is changing because of these relationships

Conclusion (17)

1. Brings us back to our desire

(1) A thankful heart for what God is doing in and through our lives & the lives of those we are in relationship with.

(2) If you want this kind of thankfulness to well up in your heart ... with your:

1. Marriages
2. Children
3. Friendships
4. Co-Workers
5. Ministry

2. ... You have to pay attention to "order of operation"

(1) Identity before activity

1. He not me
2. How not what

(2) Love before like

1. Love is put on, not out
2. Love starts w/ me not them

(3) Authenticity before community

1. Decide for authentic transformation over religious piety in our own lives
2. " " authentic discipleship over collective affinity

3. If you take this season to focus on Biblical, Gospel, wise order of operation

1. You will be healthier
2. Your relationships will be healthier
3. Peace will rule in your heart & thankfulness will flow from your heart.

... and that's a promise.

Deut. 4:40 - Therefore you shall keep his statutes and his commandments, which I command you today, that it may go well with you and with your children after you, and that you may prolong your days in the land that the LORD your God is giving you for all time."

5:16, 5:33, 6:3, 6:18 (9)
12:25, 12:28, 19:13, 22:7 (9)

All Hail King Jesus