Digging Deeper by Robert Lee

Sermon Series: It's Complicated – Relationship Status

Sermon Title: In a Relationship

Scripture Lesson: 2 Corinthians 6:14-18 & Ephesians 5:19

Monday – Read 2 Corinthians 6:14 and pray for <u>Spiritual</u> <u>Discernment</u>. Believers, do not be misled by the populous "opposites attract" ideology contained in movies, song lyrics, etc. in reference to choosing a suitable partner or soulmate! This passage warns against believers being connected with unbelievers. More often this verse refers to the subject of marriage, cautioning believers not to bind themselves for life to one who does not love the Lord. The impact of believers yoking together with unbelievers is a potential source of marriage, family, community and even national destruction. When considering a life partner, choose wisely, not wildly!

Tuesday – Read 2 Corinthians 6:15 and pray for <u>Spiritual</u> <u>Wisdom</u>. Verse 15 emphasizes the absence of harmony between Christ and Belial, which the Apostle Paul uses to help illustrate the separation that should exist between believers and unbelievers when considering lifelong relationships. What is the definition of Belial? Consider some of the relational decisions you have made. Hopefully, Paul's message in this passage will help us make wiser choices in the future regarding relational matters.

Wednesday – Read 2 Corinthians 6:16 and pray for <u>Sanctity of Life</u>. Verse 16 expresses God's purpose that we are the temple of the living God. In the latter part of this verse, Paul quotes the promise that Yahweh (God) made to the Israelites through Moses and Aaron (Leviticus 26:11-12), and through the exilic prophet Ezekial (Ez. 37:27). Also read 1 Corinthians 6:19 regarding sexual immorality. Be encouraged to honor Yahweh with your bodies for what they truly are, temples of the Holy Spirit who is in you.

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Thursday – Read 2 Corinthians 6:17 and pray for Spiritual Integrity. In the first part of verse 17, the Lord is quoted as saying, "Come out from them and be separate" (NIV). Who or what is the Lord calling believers to be separate from? In 1 Corinthians 9:5-13, the Apostle Paul explains that the Lord was not calling on believers to isolate themselves from unbelievers. Rather, Paul was discouraging compromise with sinful ways, which by the way are present in the lives of unbelievers and believers alike. The challenge for believers, therefore, is to maintain Spiritual integrity in the world as Yeshua (Jesus) did. Also read John 15:14-16 and Philemon 2:14-16.

Friday – Read 2 Corinthians 6:18 and pray thankfully for God's grace and mercy. Meditate on the comforting words in this verse that are promised to those who were chosen or adopted into God's family. Also read Isiah 43:1-13 and allow time in your busy life to absorb the fullness of God's love and commitment to His chosen people. Grace and mercy are extended to all who confess with their mouths that Jesus is Lord, and believe in their hearts that God raised him from the dead. Also read Romans 10:1-13.

Saturday – Read Ephesians 5:19 and pray earnestly for one another. Many Biblical scholars believe that "singing and making music" in this verse refers to the following three broad categories: the 150 Psalms, hymns or musical compositions about God our Father, and spiritual songs sung by believers about their Christian life experiences. In his instructions for Christian living, the Apostle Paul encourages believers to practice these methods when addressing one another (believers and non-believers).