

# Sermon Notes

## Power of the Word Part 4

### February 11<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup>, 2023

- **Week 4: Winning at Relationships**
  - o Relationships can be wonderful or terrible, switch back and forth, and be some of each!!
- Goal today: To help you win at relationships and to help the Body of Christ be the light of the world.
- Step One: Give your relationship life to Christ!
  - o “Getting Saved” is when we give our lives to Christ as his followers, trusting in God’s promises.
    - YWAM: It’s an exchange. We give ourselves to Christ, He gives us a new life!
  - o We need to avoid compartment syndrome: only giving some of your life to Christ...
    - People want to give their afterlife to Christ...but it involves giving today to Jesus.
      - Don’t get nervous. His yoke is easy and his burden is light! **Matthew 11:28-30**
    - Are you weary and burdened by your relationship life?? Let’s work on that a little today.
- Step Two: Find out what the Word says about relationships and do it!
  - Last time Eph 5. The summary is **Ephesians 5:33** So go ahead and do love and respect!!
- Step Three: Fix the problem!
  - o Ok. Here is where we have a thousand complicated topics...Lord, I pray you help us...
- Let’s go down the “Two Empty Vessels” road today as a first step.
  - o Often people enter into a relationship the wrong way. They have it backwards.
  - o They think: I’m broken and needy, let me go find someone to fix me and complete me.
    - Problem. They find someone else broken and needy who wants them to fix them!
    - It’s like two empty vessels desperately needing the other to fill them up. Not going to work.
  - o Deeper problem: People sometimes expect other people or the church to do what only God can do.
    - Instead: Go to Jesus to fill you up, heal you, deliver you, redeem your life, and forgive you.
      - Then you work into being whole and content, not needy and desperate.
  - o Isn’t it good to need someone?? Not if it’s codependent. That’s toxic.
    - Also, don’t have a codependent relationship with God!
      - You are self-destructive and perpetually broken with God as your enabler.
    - Better picture: Stephen Covey: Dependent, Independent, Interdependent.
- What does that look like? What is the Biblical picture of winning at this first level?
  - o Ladies first. **Prov 31:10-31**
    - Top ten things I noticed about the Proverbs 31 woman:
      - 1. Very precious and valuable...for good reason! 2. Bring good not harm. 3. Diligent and Prudent. 4. Land owner and business owner. 5. Provider and protector. Snow doesn’t scare her! 6. Strong and dignified. 7. Wise and able to instruct. 8. Called blessed and praised by those who know her. 9. Fears the Lord. Meaning, has learned and lives in the ways and power of God. 10. Worthy of Honor.
    - Ladies, this is a picture of what it means for you to be filled up by Christ. Take hold of it.
  - o Guys next. Let’s make it simpler...I’m just trying to help. **Luke 2:52**
    - Four things to follow Jesus in:
      - 1. Growing in wisdom – your inner man. 2. Growing in stature – your physical body. 3. Growing in favor with God. 4. Growing in favor with people.
    - Guys, this is a picture of what it means for you to be filled up by Christ. Take hold of it.
- I hope that is a little helpful. This is a complex topic, but I want you to be filled up first of all.
- Let’s close with an important idea from Jesus’ talk with Nicodemus in John 3. **John 3:1-8**
  - o You must be born again. That means it is possible for you to be born again and have new life!
- Get personal prayer by emailing [prayer@goodhope.ag](mailto:prayer@goodhope.ag).