Journey to Loving Others

Overview of Travel Analogy

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Travel Plan

- <u>Destination</u>-*Peace*ful, healthy relationships, each getting their needs met
- <u>Map</u>-It's easy to get lost! Ever-changing adventure of life stages. God's Word is our map
- <u>Vehicles</u>-two become one
- We travel in our own vehicle daily
- We meet up to connect to make one "**Peace**" vehicle
- **<u>Fuel</u>**-Love & it's smaller components
- <u>Avoiding road hazards</u>-Understanding and accepting each other's differences & wrongs, resolving conflicts
- <u>Baggage</u>-the life experience I bring to the relationship

God's Fuel

- Love is made up of components
- Main components from ICor. 13
- Patient, kind, not jealous, not conceited or proud, not ill-mannered, not self-seeking, not easily angered, does not keep a record of wrongs, enjoys truth and honesty, never gives up, never fails, lasts forever
- If you reverse these you get conflict

Talking and Listening Components

Talking (5)

- What I see and hear
- What I think
- What I feel
- What I want
- What I do

Listening (5)

- Paying attention
- Empathizing
- Asking
- Checking
- Encouraging more

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MAJOR ROAD HAZARD, ROADBLOCK TO LOVING COMMUNICATION

Paul's instructions from God for loving attitude, use of words, handling anger and resentments

HUMBLE, GENTLE, PATIENT AND TOLERANT

- Eph 4:1 Therefore I, the prisoner of the Lord, implore you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling with which you have been called,
- Eph 4:2 with all <u>humility and gentleness</u>, with patience, showing <u>tolerance</u> (to put up with, bear with, suffer) for one another in love,
- Eph 4:3 being diligent to preserve the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. 7

DEAL WITH YOUR ANGER

- Eph 4:26
- Be Angry (PROVOKE,EXASPERATED), and yet do not sin; do not let the sun go down on your anger (RAGE)
- Eph 4:27 and do not give the devil an opportunity.

FORGIVENESS

- Eph 4:31 Let all bitterness and wrath and anger and clamor and slander be put away from you, along with all malice.
- Eph 4:32 <u>Be kind to one another, tender-hearted</u>, *forgiving* each other, just as <u>God in Christ also has forgiven you</u>.

WE CAN BE FOOLED! • "If I don't intentionally examine myself, the unintentional will happen!!!"

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ASK GOD?

- Pray for God to reveal any unresolved resentments or unforgiveness (keeping a record of wrongs).
- Build a bridge for healthy, loving communication. Don't avoid conflict, resolve it!!!
- Unresolved conflict often results in unforgiveness and collisions.

Diagnostic Steps

- 1.Find a quiet place
- 2.Pray for God's help
- 3.Make a detailed list of the wrongs done to you (Who and What?)
- 4.List the effects on you
- 5.List your part

DEAL WITH YOUR ANGER

- We need to deal with our anger, Paul says daily!
- Remove the record of wrongs
- Most people have no plan
- Most don't even know!!!

Jesus on Blaming and Judging

- Mat 7:3 Why, then, do you look at the speck in your brother's eye and pay no attention to the log in your own eye?
- Mat 7:4 How dare you say to your brother, 'Please, let me take that speck out of your eye,' when you have a log in your own eye?
- Mat 7:5 You hypocrite! First take the log out of your own eye, and then you will be able to see clearly to take the speck out of your brother's eye.

Jesus, Again!

• Mat 6:12 Forgive us the wrongs we have done, as we forgive the wrongs that others have done to us.





