**CHRIST COMPANION BIBLE CHURCH**

**Weekly Bible Study**

**Branch: Headquarters Date:07/03/2023**

**POSSIBILITIES OF RIGHT AND GRACIOUS RELATIONSHIP. (PART 2) STUDY 8.**

**TEXT**: **1Samuel 18:1-5**.

**MEMORY VERSE**: James 4:4,Amos 3:3

Successful, workable and rewarding relationship does not just happen, there is always a basis for it. That is, a solid foundation on which to build upon. Jonathan and David were good models of gracious relationship that impacted so much on Israel as a nation. Without Jonathan, David's life was at a great risk under Saul! His ascension to the throne would also have been doubtful. Jonathan was ready to be there for David in good and bad seasons. David relationship and goodness to Jonathan transcended death! It extended to Mephiboshet, his son years after! It was a relationship full of substances as vital ingredients.

**Ingredients Of Godly And Rewarding Relationship. 1 Samuel 20:1-17.**

Let us consider some ingredients we need to put into our lives as believers to facilitate good and profitable relationship with others:

**1. Love:** The love of Christ and for others is very important. Love is the mother and anchor of vital and rewarding relationship. Luke 10:27.

We all have capacity to love. Evidently, you love yourself!

Love thinks, considers, and works for the best of its objects.

Love promotes the interest of its objects, seeking to complement and compensate for whatever inadequacies.

Love upholds, affirms and corrects. It is never evil intentioned! Such was the basis of Jonathan and David relationship.

Today, the fruits of the Spirit are made available to every believer for this purpose. Philippians 1:8-11.

**2. Trust:** This in simple term is confidence, reliance and a sense of dependency places on an object without fear or agitations of failure or disappointment. It makes one feels safe in a relationship. It is like a covenant seal, as in Jonathan and David friendship.

Note:

*i. Trust is like a bank account. Each deposits into or credits (trustworthy behaviour) it, builds it up to strengthen its worth and efficacies.*

*Also, each withdrawal ( disappointing behaviour) lowers the value! Just as in bank account, a relationship will go negative with continual withdrawals without creditable inputs!*

*ii. David became suspicious of Saul relationship with him because of certain negative deposits! In no time, he withdrew from Saul's presence and services!*

**Lesson: Ensure you deposit virtues not vices, loving deeds, not hurtful memories into your relationship with others, like Jonathan did to David.**

**3. Hope:** This is an assurance that the outcome is sure and secured as expected. It could be future, a deal or a promise.

Note: When hope is gone in a relationship, the relationship will soon be a forgone issue!

Hope is like a seed, when sown, energy is released, the mind is made up to continue to dress the garden with full assurance that fruits will come at approximate time to justify and compensate the effort, sacrifice and all that is put into the relationship.

**Lesson: Speak promising words, take affirmative steps, and actions, full of encouragements to give life to your relationship. Without hope, there will be no life! Proverb 13:12.**

**4. Openness and Agreement:** Face must answer to face in every true and meaningful relationship! According to Proverbs 27:19 KJV

**"As in water face answereth to face, so the heart of man to man".**

Walls and gaps are enemies of vibrant and productive relationship. It must always be removed at all cost.

Jonathan and David developed a very close interactive face such that:

*i. Every cloud of doubts, suspicions and fears was raised, discussed and dissolved with mutual understanding, solutions and agreement.*

*ii. Aspirations, success and fortunes were held in positive perspective such that their relationship was without envy or strives. Both aimed at common goodness.*

**Lesson: Allow nothing to stand in-between or to keep at arm's length in your relationship. Agreement is key to successful relationship. It produces synergetic effects for progress. Amos 3:3**

**5. Purpose :** The knowledge of why you are in that relationship and your goals is a factor regarding your commitment to it and playing active roles to keep and sustain it.

"**By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another". John 13:35 KJV**

Your chief purpose in whatever relationship engaged in, must be to radiate Christ's love to the world by your character and good work, to show forth His glory! Therefore:

*i. Let your good purpose govern your dispositions and actions.*

*ii. Give your very best with the aim of fulfilling the purpose of that relationship, whether in: marriage, pastoral care, leadership, friendship etc. Let nothing stand on your way. 2 Samuel 9:1-5.*

**6. Sharing:** No relationship survives without the contributions from the parts involved. You must always have something to donate!

In natural setting, this truth is often well demonstrated. Trees will raise flowers, produce nectars with fragrance that attracts insects. Thus, in the relationship, the insects rub on the flowers to enhance pollenation and fertilization process, which helps the tree produce fruit! To have resources to share, you must:

*i. Develop and grow yourself physically, mentally, emotionally, socially, etc.*

*ii. Get matured enough to produce ripe fruits in your words and deed ! Proverb 19:6.*

**7. Wisdom from above: (See James 3:13-18).**

True wisdom comes from the Lord.

Wisdom equips you with ability to integrate every resource at your disposal to get along, and get the expected results in relating with others, you must therefore:

*i. Embrace purity. ii. Be peaceful*

*iii. Be gentle*

*iv. Be approachable.*

*v Show empathy,.*

*vi. Show kindness*

*vii. Shun partiality,*

*viii. Shun hypocrisy.*

*ix. Do what is right always.*

*Above all, pray for God's help and blessings over your relationship.*

**Prayer:**

1. Lord, make me a source of blessings to others.

2. Lord, give me a heart full of love for others.

3. Lord, fill me with wisdom to maintain and sustain viable relationship. Amen.

**HYMN: I GAVE MY LIFE FOR THEE**

1. I gave my life for thee, My precious blood I shed,

That thou might’st ransomed be,

And quickened from the dead;

I gave, I gave

My life for thee, What hast thou giv’n for Me?

1. I spent long years for thee,

In weariness and woe, That an eternity

Of Joy thou mightiest know;

I spent, I spent long years for thee;

Hast thou spent one for Me?

1. My Father’s home of light,

My glory-circled throne

I left for earthly night

For wand’rings sad and lone;

I left, I left it all for thee,

Hast thou left aught for Me?

1. I suffered much for thee,

More than thy tongue can tell,

Of bitt’rest agony-

To rescue thee from hell;

I’ve borne, I’ve it all for thee,

What hast thou borne for Me?

1. Lord, let my life be given,

And every moment spent,

For God, for souls, for heaven,

And all earth’s ties be rent Thou gav’st

Thyself for me, Now I give all for Thee.