

Relationships - Making the Ideal Real

Reordered Devotion – The Key to Intimacy

Ephesians 4:15-24

Presented by
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Our capacity for deep intimacy is enhanced by intentional devotion to Christ.

“What God creates, Satan tries to corrupt” (John 10:10).

Groans from the Garden:

- The exchange of truth for a lie led to a loss of intimacy and a lingering battle (Romans 1:25).
- Deceitful desires lead us to settle for cheap fakes
 - “Futility” (v. 17) – Emptiness, purposelessness, folly.
 - “Promiscuity” (v.19) – Often sexual, always selfish, inevitably destructive.

Reordered Devotion

- Reordered devotion restores the potential for real intimacy.
 - “Put on the new self” (v. 24) – In the likeness of Christ, we selflessly give rather than selfishly take (5:1-2).
- The ingredients for intimacy are produced by the Spirit (Galatians 5:22-23).

The Battle in our Minds

- Real intimacy requires a renewed mindset (v. 23).
 - A devour mindset leads to dysfunction, but a devotion mindset leads to delight!

Discussion Questions:

1. How have cultural opinions and expressions about intimacy shaped or influenced your own thoughts and desires? What are the potential dangers associated with these cultural ideas?
2. Describe real intimacy? How can we experience this with Christ? Why would it be foolish to seek this apart from a relationship with Him?
3. Intimacy has a variety of forms (spiritual, emotional, intellectual, recreational, physical). Why is it important that we recognize and nurture all forms of intimacy? How does the Spirit of God equip us to do this well?
4. Consider the instances where you’ve been selfish rather than selfless in relationships. Reflect on what has been diminished or lost as a result. What would God have you confess and submit to Him to be renewed and restored moving forward?

Today's Worship Songs:

Jesus, Firm Foundation

Christ Be Magnified

Trust in God

Blessed Assurance

Worthy of It All

Worthy, You Are Worthy

Ask your questions about the
Relationship series at Menti.com
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