

Keys to Building Kingdom Relationships

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INTRODUCTION

- God is incredibly relational
- God designed relationship
- God desires for us to have strong, life-giving relationships – with Him, and with each other

KEY ONE: KNOWING YOUR WORTH

- Identity – adopted to sonship
- No relationship can add to or take away from my worth
- My contribution in relationship is a valuable one, and it is important

KEY TWO: BE MALLEABLE

Malleable =
 Able to be hammered or pressed permanently out of shape (or into shape) without breaking or cracking
 Google, parentheses mine

KEY TWO: BE MALLEABLE

- Repentant heart – Kind David

2 Samuel 11: Uriah & Bathsheba

“Against you, you only, have I sinned”
 Psalm 51:4 NIV

KEY TWO: BE MALLEABLE

- Desire to be more like Jesus

“Create in me a pure heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me.
 Do not cast me away from your presence or take your Holy Spirit from me.”
 Psalm 51:10-11 NIV

KEY TWO: BE MALLEABLE

- Repentant heart
- Desire to know Jesus more, to become more like him
- Allowing relationship to be what it was designed to be, part of which is facilitating this change / growth

KEY THREE: COUNT THE COST

- The principle of counting the cost
- When it's worth it, the cost normally pales in comparison to the reward
- A personal example

KEY THREE: COUNT THE COST

Luke 14:28-30 NIV

Suppose one of you wants to build a tower. Won't you first sit down and estimate the cost to see if you have enough money to complete it?

KEY THREE: COUNT THE COST

Luke 14:28-30 NIV (continued)

For if you lay the foundation and are not able to finish it, everyone who sees it will ridicule you, saying, "This person began to build and wasn't able to finish."

KEY THREE: COUNT THE COST

- The cost pales in comparison to the reward
- A personal example

KEY FOUR: MAINTAIN CONNECTION DURING CONFLICT

- It's okay to disagree about stuff
- Unity versus uniformity
- The goal of working through conflict, of discussing disagreements

KEY FIVE: ENGAGE WITH HONOUR

- Treating others according to their current state versus intended design
- The power of giving the benefit of the doubt
- Major killers: familiarity, competition & entitlement

SUMMARY

- Know your worth
- Be malleable
- Count the cost
- Maintain connection during conflict
- Engage with honour

HOW WE GROW IN THESE AREAS

- Behaviour modification versus a change in heart
- Jesus –
 - Our perfect example
 - When we encounter relationship with Him, we are changed, and that changes how we do relationship

THE GOLDEN THREAD

- Our sinful nature: the purpose of relationship is to somehow fill me
- Jesus' heart: the purpose of relationship is to empty myself for you (Philippians 2)

COMMUNION

- Lord, come and circumcise our hearts, so that we will have the same mind as Christ – to empty ourselves for one another; to give rather than receive; to serve rather than be served.

APPLYING THIS IN OUR OWN LIVES

In pairs, share which key you are putting your faith out to grow in:

- Know your worth
- Be malleable
- Count the cost
- Maintaining connection
- Engage with honour

Pray a blessing into that area for others
