

## Significance of relationships in the Kingdom

16 February 2014

- **Intellectual pursuit vs relational pursuit**
- Ps 111:10 (Fear of the Lord)
  - Implies relationship
- Kingdom of God
  - Relationship with the Father through Jesus Christ
  - Increase in knowledge and understanding through relationship with God

### - **Kingdom advances in the face of violence**

Mat 11:12-14 "And from the days of John the Baptist until now the kingdom of heaven suffers violence, and the violent take it by force. For all the prophets and the law prophesied until John. And if ye will receive it, this is Elijah, which was for to come."

### - **Connection between Elijah and John the Baptist**

Mat 17:11 "And Jesus answered and said unto them, Elijah truly shall first come, and restore all things. But I say unto you, That Elijah is come already, and they knew him not..."  
 Mat 17:13 "Then the disciples understood that he spoke unto them of John the Baptist."

### - **Relational aspect as part of advancement of the Kingdom**

Mal 4:5-6 "Behold, I will send you Elijah the prophet before the coming of the great and dreadful day of the LORD: And he shall turn the heart of the fathers to the children, and the heart of the children to their fathers, lest I come and smite the earth with a curse."

### - **Relational aspect as part of advancement of the Kingdom**

- John – baptism of repentance
- Turning of hearts most important
  - Fathers and children to connect, **impertation**
  - Discipleship
  - Teachability
  - Accountability

### - Impartation

- 1) Contact (Through the laying on of hands)
  - Action based
- 2) Association (Critical periods spent in the presence or under influence of an imparter)
  - Relational based
- 3) Exposure (To the ministry of the imparter )
  - Content / experience based

### - Relationships in the Kingdom

- Covenant relationships
  - Marriage (Eph 5:21-33)
    - One husband and one wife (1 Peter 3:1-10)
    - Unconditional
- Parents / children (Eph 6:1-4) (Col 3:21)
- Families
  - Significant (Jer 2:4, Gen 28:14, Heb 11:7)
  - Building block of the local body

### - Relationships in the Kingdom

- Accountability relationships
  - Pro 27:17 "Iron sharpens iron; so a man sharpens the countenance of his friend."
- Spiritual fathers
  - 1Co 4:15 "For though ye have ten thousand instructors in Christ, yet have ye not many fathers: for in Christ Jesus I have begotten you through the gospel."

### - Attack on relationships in the Kingdom

- Strategic targets for the enemy
- Tries to prevent deep and meaningful relationships
- Offence
- Healthy relationships are essential for the body and the Kingdom to advance