

# Jesus Changes Everything-New Relationships

Begins with a few worship songs with FaithWorship

Announcements

Break into small groups

Large group discussion about small group topics:

Parents: Ephesians 6:1-3

Friends: John 15:12-13

Enemies: Matthew 5:43-48

Authorities: Romans 13:1-5

This week is about New Relationships. As we've already discussed in small groups, Jesus Changes Everything, even how we relate to others, in all aspects of our lives.

I want to look at a few passages tonight.

The first is **Luke 10:1** *After these things the Lord appointed seventy others also, and sent them two by two before His face into every city and place where He Himself was about to go. Why do you think Jesus sent these people out two by two? We were meant to work in community with one another. From the beginning, God saw it was not good that we were alone.*

Next, let's look at **Mark 2:1-12** <sup>1</sup> *And again He entered Capernaum after some days, and it was heard that He was in the house. <sup>2</sup> Immediately many gathered together, so that there was no longer room to receive them, not even near the door. And He preached the word to them. <sup>3</sup> Then they came to Him, bringing a paralytic who was carried by four men. <sup>4</sup> And when they could not come near Him because of the crowd, they uncovered the roof where He was. So, when they had broken through, they let down the bed on which the paralytic was lying.*

<sup>5</sup> *When Jesus saw their faith, He said to the paralytic, "Son, your sins are forgiven you."*

<sup>6</sup> *And some of the scribes were sitting there and reasoning in their hearts, <sup>7</sup> "Why does this Man speak blasphemies like this? Who can forgive sins but God alone?"*

<sup>8</sup> *But immediately, when Jesus perceived in His spirit that they reasoned thus within themselves, He said to them, "Why do you reason about these things in your hearts? <sup>9</sup> Which is easier, to say to the paralytic, 'Your sins are forgiven you,' or to say, 'Arise, take up your bed and walk'? <sup>10</sup> But that you may know that the Son of Man has power on earth to forgive sins"—He said to the paralytic, <sup>11</sup> "I say to you, arise, take up your bed, and go to your house." <sup>12</sup> Immediately he arose, took up the bed, and went out in the presence of them all, so that all were amazed and glorified God, saying, "We never saw anything like this!" How was this group of friends affected by Jesus? Jesus said, "when He saw THEIR faith."*

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dIBOmQ1PaMY>

Now let's talk about us. We've talked about our relationship with our parents, our friends, our enemies, and authorities. But, what does that mean for us? We know Jesus Changes Everything, but exactly how does He

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change our relationships? By changing our perspective to Christ's perspective, our relationships become a completely different in every way. Philippians 2 explains...

**Philippians 2:1-4** <sup>1</sup> Therefore if there is any consolation in Christ, if any comfort of love, if any fellowship of the Spirit, if any affection and mercy, <sup>2</sup> fulfill my joy by being like-minded, having the same love, being of one accord, of one mind. <sup>3</sup> Let nothing be done through selfish ambition or conceit, but in lowliness of mind let each esteem others better than himself. <sup>4</sup> Let each of you look out not only for his own interests, but also for the interests of others.

What does the world tell us about relationships? The world has a very self-centered view of relationships. What can this person do for me? How do they make me feel? What can I get out of this relationship? How does it benefit me?

Paul tells us our relationships look different, if we are in Christ. Our perspective changes. We begin to look outward instead of inward. What can I do for this person? How can I make their life better? What can I give to this relationship? How can I be a blessing to them? And this applies to all relationships, not just romantic relationships. Have you ever thought about what you can do to make your parents' life easier, more fulfilling, how you can be a blessing to them? What about your teachers? Your friends? This doesn't mean to become a doormat and let everyone run over you. Verse 4 makes that clear. However, we are to have a heart for others, even at the expense of our own feelings or comfort at times.

**Philippians 2:5-11** <sup>5</sup> Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus, <sup>6</sup> who, being in the form of God, did not consider it robbery to be equal with God, <sup>7</sup> but made Himself of no reputation, taking the form of a bondservant, and coming in the likeness of men. <sup>8</sup> And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself and became obedient to the point of death, even the death of the cross. <sup>9</sup> Therefore God also has highly exalted Him and given Him the name which is above every name, <sup>10</sup> that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of those in heaven, and of those on earth, and of those under the earth, <sup>11</sup> and that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

As a Christian, how do we know what our relationships should look like? Simple, just like any other aspect of our life, it should look like Christ! Paul continues in verses 5-11 to explain just where this perspective came from. It came from Jesus. Jesus, who is God and has every right to think He is better than everyone else because He actually is, humbled Himself, made Himself "no big deal" just for us! He stooped to the lowest form as a servant to all mankind. But His service to us ultimately led Him to the cross where He made the ultimate sacrifice. He loved us even though we were His enemy. The Bible tells us that we were at "enmity" with God (Ephesians 2:15-16) but Christ's work on the cross made a way to fix that.

Let me make sure you understand what verse 9-11 is saying...everyone will confess Jesus as Lord at some point in their existence. When Jesus returns, those that have rejected Him will admit that He is Lord but it will be too late for them. They made their choice while they were still living on this earth. Don't let that be you! If you are going to confess Jesus as Lord, Master, Boss...which you will, it needs to be now while His grace is extended to you! He died for you! He loves you! And He wants a relationship with you! Let the New Relationships in your life start with your relationship with Jesus!