

Week 1:

Heaven on Earth When it Really Hurts



Questions

1. What illustration, story, or example stood out to you this week?
2. When have your relationship expectations not lined up with reality? How did that make you feel?
3. Read Colossians 3:1-3. Why do you think it's so hard to keep our hearts fixed on things above? What earthly things do you tend to fix your heart on?
4. When has someone treated you like royalty? How did that make you feel valuable and accepted? What current relationship in your life could use more intention and Christ-like forgiveness and love?
5. Read Colossians 3:12. The traits that Paul lists (mercy, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience) are only possible through the Holy Spirit (Galatians 5:22-23). How can you consistently build a habit of displaying these traits in your life?
6. How does God's acceptance change your identity and security? What changes in your daily life when you really believe this truth?
7. What one practical step do you plan to implement from this week's message?

Scripture References

Read Colossians 3:13; Colossians 3:1-3; Colossians 1:5-15

Takeaways

You choose the health of your relationships when you choose how to handle your pain.

If you don't learn to forgive in Christ, your life legacy will be a train of painfully, broken relationships.

If unforgiveness is a cancer to relationships but we all experience pains that we cannot will ourselves to forgive, then how in the world can we do this?

10 Steps to a Healthy Home Where Everyone is Treated Like Royalty

If you want relationships that are heaven on earth:

1. Have a high view of God as resident and president of your home
2. Treat every close relation like royalty
3. Constantly take off the dirty clothes of your old self
4. Position yourself to be being rescued by knowing more and more of Christ
5. Not view people through the broken lenses, assumptions, & stereotypes of this world
6. Clothe yourself intentionally and regularly with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness & patience
7. Choose a lifestyle of forgiving and re-forgiving

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8. Love others in a way that makes love the overcoat which bumps up against all others
9. Choose Christ as Ruler of your mind and home
10. Flood your home, car and mind with Scripture and worship music