

Building Relationships That Last

My Brother's Keeper





MY BROTHER'S KEEPER



Philippians 2:4 - Amplified Bible

Let each of you esteem and look upon and be concerned for not [merely] his own interests, but also each for the interests of others.



Genesis 4:9 Amplified Bible

Then the Lord said to Cain, “Where is Abel your brother?” And he [lied and] said, “I do not know.

Am I my brother’s keeper?”



The voice of indifference towards others



Why focus on others?



The Good Samaritan

Luke 10:25-37



The Good Samaritan

Luke 10:25-37



Luke 10:25-37 Amplified Bible

25 And a certain lawyer [an expert in Mosaic Law] stood up to test Him, saying, “Teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?”

26 Jesus said to him, “What is written in the Law? How do you read it?”

27 And he replied, “You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your strength, and with all your mind; and your neighbour as yourself.”

The Good Samaritan

Luke 10:25-37

Luke 10:25-37 Amplified Bible

²⁸ Jesus said to him, "You have answered correctly; do this *habitually* and you will live."

²⁹ But he, wishing to justify *and* vindicate himself, asked Jesus, "And who is my neighbour?"



The Good Samaritan

Luke 10:25-37



Parable of the Good Samaritan

30 Jesus replied, "A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and he encountered robbers, who stripped him of his clothes [and belongings], beat him, and went their way [unconcerned], leaving him half dead.

31 Now by coincidence a priest was going down that road, and when he saw him, he passed by on the other side.

32 Likewise a Levite also came down to the place and saw him, and passed by on the other side [of the road].

The Good Samaritan

Luke 10:25-37



Parable of the Good Samaritan

³³ But a Samaritan (foreigner), who was traveling, came upon him; and when he saw him, he was deeply moved with compassion [for him],

³⁴ and went to him and bandaged up his wounds, pouring oil and wine on *them* [to sooth and disinfect the injuries]; and he put him on his own pack-animal, and brought him to an inn and took care of him.



The Good Samaritan

Luke 10:25-37



Parable of the Good Samaritan

³⁵ On the next day he took out two denarii (two days' wages) and gave them to the innkeeper, and said, 'Take care of him; and whatever more you spend, I will repay you when I return.'

³⁶ Which of these three do you think proved himself a neighbour to the man who encountered the robbers?"

³⁷ He answered, "The one who showed compassion *and* mercy to him." Then Jesus said to him, "**Go and constantly do the same.**"

2 Questions we should ask ourselves?

**Why is it that many times in life we are like
the priest and the Levite?**

**Why is it that we do not care about the
other person?**



**The person who is in need is your neighbour
The person who you do not know is your neighbour**



Why is it that we do not focus on others?

Lack of love

Fear

Self-centeredness



Practical Keys to help us focus on others



Practical Keys to help us focus on others

1. Give preference to others

Philippians 2:3 Amplified Bible

³ Do nothing from selfishness or empty conceit [through factional motives, or strife], but with [an attitude of] humility [being neither arrogant nor self-righteous], regard others as more important than yourselves.



Following principles adapted from John Maxwell's book "Winning with people"

Practical Keys to help us focus on others

1. Give preference to others

Romans 12:10 Amplified Bible

¹⁰ Be devoted to one another with [authentic] brotherly affection [as members of one family], give preference to one another in honour;



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Practical Keys to help us focus on others

1. Give preference to others

Romans 12:10 The Message

Be good friends who love deeply; practice playing second fiddle



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2. Each person I meet has the potential to teach me something.

Proverbs 27:17 Amplified Bible

¹⁷ As iron sharpens iron, So one man sharpens [and influences] another [through discussion].



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Practical Keys to help us focus on others

2. Each person I meet has the potential to teach me something.

We do have to be careful not to “learn” wrong things

1 Corinthians 15:33 Amplified Bible

³³ Do not be deceived: “Bad company corrupts good morals.”



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3. People are interested in the person who is interested in them and seeks their wellbeing.

Philippians 2:4 Amplified Bible

⁴ Do not *merely* look out for your own personal interests, but also for the interests of others.



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4. Believing the best in others usually empowers them to give their best.

1 Corinthians 13:7 Amplified Bible

⁷ Love bears all things [regardless of what comes], believes all things [looking for the best in each one], hopes all things [remaining steadfast during difficult times], endures all things [without weakening].



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Practical Keys to help us focus on others

5. Caring for people should precede confronting them.

Matthew 18:21-22 Amplified Bible

Forgiveness

²¹ Then Peter came to Him and asked, “Lord, how many times will my brother sin against me and I forgive him *and* let it go? Up to seven times?”

²² Jesus answered him, “I say to you, not up to seven times, but seventy times seven.



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5. Caring for people should precede confronting them.

Matthew 18:23-35 Amplified Bible

²³ “Therefore the kingdom of heaven is like a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves.

²⁴ When he began the accounting, one who owed him 10,000 talents was brought to him.

²⁵ But because he could not repay, his master ordered him to be sold, with his wife and his children and everything that he possessed, and payment to be made.

²⁶ So the slave fell on his knees and begged him, saying, ‘Have patience with me and I will repay you everything.’



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5. Caring for people should precede confronting them.

Matthew 18:23-35 Amplified Bible

²⁷ And his master's heart was moved with compassion and he released him and forgave him [cancelling] the debt.

²⁸ But that same slave went out and found one of his fellow slaves who owed him a hundred denarii; and he seized him and *began* choking him, saying, 'Pay what you owe!'

²⁹ So his fellow slave fell on his knees and begged him earnestly, 'Have patience with me and I will repay you.'



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5. Caring for people should precede confronting them.

Matthew 18:23-35 Amplified Bible

³⁰ But he was unwilling and he went and had him thrown in prison until he paid back the debt.

³¹ When his fellow slaves saw what had happened, they were deeply grieved and they went and reported to their master [with clarity and in detail] everything that had taken place.

³² Then his master called him and said to him, ‘You wicked *and* contemptible slave, I forgave all that [great] debt of yours because you begged me.



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Matthew 18:23-35 Amplified Bible

³³ Should you not have had mercy on your fellow slave [who owed you little by comparison], as I had mercy on you?’

³⁴ And in wrath his master turned him over to the torturers (jailers) until he paid all that he owed.

³⁵ My heavenly Father will also do the same to [every one of] you, if each of you does not forgive his brother from your heart.”



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5. Caring for people should precede confronting them.

Proverbs 27:6 Amplified Bible

⁶ Faithful are the wounds of a friend [who corrects out of love and concern], But the kisses of an enemy are deceitful [because they serve his hidden agenda].



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5. Caring for people should precede confronting them.

Ephesians 4:15 Amplified Bible

¹⁵ But speaking the truth in love [in all things—both our speech and our lives expressing His truth], let us grow up in all *things* into Him [following His example] who is the Head—Christ.

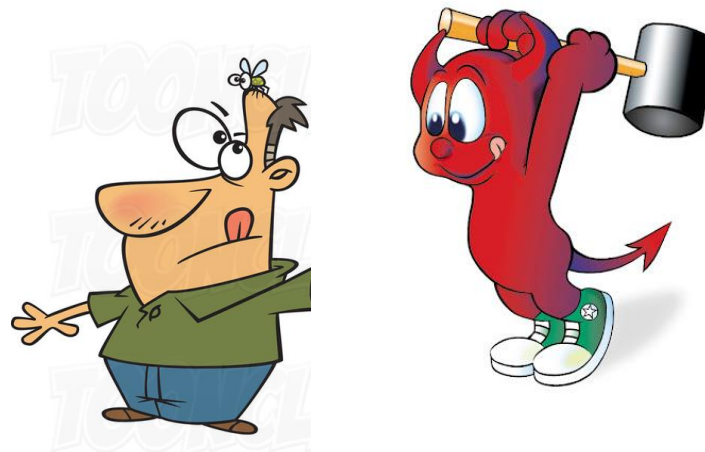


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Practical Keys to help us focus on others

5. Caring for people should precede confronting them.

Never use a hammer to swat a fly off someone's head.
(John Maxwell)



Following principles adapted from John Maxwell's book "Winning with people"

Practical Keys to help us focus on others

6. Be a people-lifter-upper

We can lift people up or take people down (John Maxwell).



Following principles adapted from John Maxwell's book "Winning with people"

Practical Keys to help us focus on others

6. Be a people-lifter-upper

Ephesians 4:29 Amplified Bible

²⁹ Do not let unwholesome [foul, profane, worthless, vulgar] words ever come out of your mouth, but only such *speech* as is good for building up others, according to the need *and* the occasion, so that it will be a blessing to those who hear [you speak].



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Practical Keys to help us focus on others

Dangers to avoid as you focus on others

Don't make people dependent on you

Do not let people abuse your care and concern

You are not called to meet everybody's need.

But make sure that you do meet those who have been assigned to your life.

Don't compromise on eternal values in the interests of pleasing people



Following principles adapted from John Maxwell's book "Winning with people"

Practical Keys to help us focus on others

Objective:

- Putting others first should become a way of life



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Application & Reflection

As husbands/Wives

- *Instead of thinking what your spouse needs to do to meet your needs, how about focusing on what you can do for your spouse.*



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Practical Keys to help us focus on others

Application & Reflection

As Parents (Father/Mother)

- *Your children are people too! They too have have emotional and physical needs.*



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Application & Reflection

As Children

- *Take time to minister to your parents.*



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Application & Reflection

As Employees

- *Instead of always looking at how the company must meet your needs, or how your boss needs to pay more attention to you, etc. how about just giving 100% to what you have been assigned to do.*



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Practical Keys to help us focus on others

Application & Reflection

As Employer/boss

- *Putting the needs of your employees above your own personal needs.*



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Application & Reflection

As a Church Family, As the people of God

- *Pursuing the call of God to touch people above personal dreams*



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Practical Keys to help us focus on others

How about you?

Putting others first in our church and in our community.



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