Encounter Church Sunday August 16, 2023

Together at the Table Satan is Messing Up Your Relationships

INTRODUCTION: It's time to get real about our relationships! You were created for healthy relationships!

Genesis 2:18- "And the Lord God said, "It is not good that man should be alone; I will make him a helper comparable to him."

Genesis 2:24- "Therefore a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and they shall become one flesh."

God takes two and makes one. UNITY!!!

WHAT'S GOD'S DESIRE WITH YOUR RELATIONSHIPS?

John 15:12- "This is My commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you."

1 Corinthians 16:14- "Let all that you do be done with love."

God wants every marriage to be ONE!

Since Paul used the church to illustrate the marriage between a man and woman we can too!

<u>1Corinthians 1:10-</u> "I appeal to you, dear brothers and sisters, by the authority of our Lord Jesus Christ, to live in harmony with each other. Let there be no divisions in the church. Rather, be of one mind, united in thought and purpose."

Your relationships are under attack!

<u>John 10:10</u>- "The thief does not come except to steal, and to kill, and to destroy. I have come that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly."

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

1. The enemies agenda is destruction!

Satan wants to destroy anything or anyone that glorifies God!

It's time to get real about our relationships because Satan is real!

<u>Matthew 12:25-26</u>- "But Jesus knew their thoughts, and said to them: "Every kingdom divided against itself is brought to desolation, and every city or house divided against itself will not stand. If Satan casts out Satan, he is divided against himself. How then will <u>his kingdom stand?</u>"

Satan and his kingdom have one agenda, destruction! to destroy everything God has established through His Kingdom which has a King and his name is Jesus!

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

2. The enemies strategy is division!

The enemies strategy to cause destruction is division.

JESUS SAID IT HIMSELF- "every city or house divided against itself will not stand"

God takes two and makes one! Satan takes one and makes two!

Devil- false accuser, slanderer, calumniator, backbiter, enemy, one who separates!

Mark 3:25- "A home filled with strife and division destroys itself."

The enemies goal is to separate!

JUST BECAUSE YOU'RE SITTING AT THE TABLE IT DOESN'T MEAN THAT YOU'RE TOGETHER AT THE TABLE!

The enemies agenda is destruction! His strategy is division!

3. His tactic is those little offenses.

The reason it's so easy for some of you to be unhappy is because it's so easy for you to be offended!

Our enemy is very strategic! It happens one offense at a time!

The closer the relationship the greater the opportunity for offense. No-body can make you really mad like somebody you really love!

Satan divides one offense at a time building up to destruction!

YOUR RELATIONSHIPS ARE UNDER ATTACK! One little offense at a time!

Matthew 5:23-26- "So if you are presenting a sacrifice at the altar in the Temple and you suddenly remember that someone has something against you, leave your sacrifice there at the altar. Go and be reconciled to that person. Then come and offer your sacrifice to God. "When you are on the way to court with your adversary, settle your differences quickly. Otherwise, your accuser may hand you over to the judge, who will hand you over to an officer, and you will be thrown into prison. And if that happens, you surely won't be free again until you have paid the last penny."

Don't be a prisoner to your offense!

Matthew 18:21-35- "Then Peter came to him and asked, "Lord, how often should I forgive someone who sins against me? Seven times?" "No, not seven times," Jesus replied, "but seventy times seven! "Therefore, the Kingdom of Heaven can be compared to a king who decided to bring his accounts up to date with servants who had borrowed money from him. In the process, one of his debtors was brought in who owed him millions of dollars. He couldn't pay, so his master ordered that he be sold—along with his wife, his children, and everything he owned—to pay the debt. "But the man fell down before his master and begged him, 'Please, be patient with me, and I will pay it all.' Then his master was filled with pity for him, and he released him and forgave his debt. "But when the man left the king, he went to a fellow servant who owed him a few thousand dollars. He grabbed him by the throat and demanded instant payment. "His fellow servant fell down before him and begged for a little more time. 'Be patient with me, and I will pay it,' he pleaded. But his creditor wouldn't wait. He had the man arrested and put in prison until the debt could be paid in full. "When some of the other servants saw this, they were very upset. They went to the king and told him everything that had happened. Then the king called in the man he had forgiven and said, 'You evil servant! I forgave you that tremendous debt because you pleaded with me. Shouldn't you have mercy on your fellow servant, just as I had mercy on you?' Then the angry king sent the man to prison to be tortured until he had paid his entire debt. "That's what my heavenly Father will do to you if you refuse to forgive your brothers and sisters from your heart."

Are you "TOGETHER AT THE TABLE" in your relationships?

Satan's agenda is destruction. His strategy is division. His tactic is offense.

What is the Holy Spirit saying to you through this message?