

BREAKOUT MATERIAL – LINDA GUMM

Someone's Watching

Someone's Watching: Living Christian Attitudes

"Finally, all of you, live in harmony with one another; be sympathetic, love as brothers, be compassionate and humble. Do not repay evil with evil or insult with insult, but with blessing, because to this you were called so that you may inherit a blessing. For, 'Whoever would love life and see good days must keep his tongue from evil and his lips from deceitful speech. He must turn from evil and do good; he must seek peace and pursue it. For the eyes of the Lord are on the righteous and his ears are attentive to their prayer, but the face of the Lord is against those who do evil.'" (1 Peter 3:8-12)

Introduction

World views

- A. Lack knowledge of what some of these virtues are or what they truly look like
- B. Lack appreciation of these virtues
- C. Sidebar: World views infiltrate the church

Dissecting the living attitudes

Ephesians 2:10: "We are God's handiwork created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do."

- A. "Live in HARMONY with one another."
- B. "Be SYMPATHETIC."

Hebrews 4:15,16: "For we do not have a high priest [Jesus] who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who has been tempted in every way, just as we are, yet was without sin. So let us approach the throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need."

- C. "LOVE as brothers (and sisters)."

Ephesians 2:4,5: "Because of his great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy, made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions – it is by grace you have been saved."

John 15:12: "This is my command: Love one another as I have loved you."

Mark 12:30-31: "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength." ... 'Love your neighbor as yourself.' There is no other commandment greater than these."

Romans 12:9-10: "Do not just pretend to love others. Hate what is evil. Cling to what is good. Be devoted to one another with brotherly love. Think of others as deserving more honor than yourselves."

D. "Be COMPASSIONATE."

Matthew 9:36: "When [Jesus] saw the crowds, he was moved with compassion for them, because they were troubled and downcast, like sheep without a shepherd."

I Corinthians 1:3-7: "Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our trouble, so that we can comfort those in any trouble with the same comfort with which we ourselves are comforted by God. For just as the sufferings of Christ overflow to us, so through Christ our comfort also overflows. If we are troubled, it is for your comfort and salvation. If we are comforted, it is for your comfort, which produces in you the ability to endure the same sufferings that we are also suffering. Our hope for you is sure, since we know that just as you share in our sufferings, so you also share in our comfort."

E. "Be HUMBLE."

Philippians 2:3,4: "Do nothing out of selfish ambition or empty conceit, but in humility consider one another better than yourselves. Let each of you look carefully not only to your own interests, but also to the interests of others."

Philippians 2:7,8: "He made himself nothing by taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness. And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to death – even death on a cross!"

Coming out on top – Psalm 34 reference

- A. Sanctifying power of the Holy Spirit
- B. This IS reality - God's eyes ARE on the righteous

Hebrews 6:10: "For God is not unjust. He will not forget your work and the love that you showed for his name's sake, when you served the saints, and while you continue to serve them."

Conclusion

Continued study at home

Read I Timothy 4:6-16, "A Good Servant of Christ Jesus," and John 14 and 15 and 16 – all about love. Also read the stanzas of CW Hymn #491, "O Master of the Loving Heart."