

Developing a Strong Me

In this series of classes we are going to look at a variety of things that will help us become the families that God designed us to be. Today we are dealing with a difficult issue.

The issue is “me.” Before I can look at my spouse, my kids, my job, my finances, or circumstance and point fingers, I have to examine myself. I must assure that I am trying to be the Christian that I need to be individually, before I can lead my family.

Am I The Problem?

When problems arise, who do you blame? The normal response is “someone else.” Christians are NOT normal (Matthew 5:13-14, Phillipian’s 3:20) The worst kind of leader is a hypocrite. I need to continually examine myself and ask myself some questions:

- **Am I to blame?**
- **Am I being selfish? - (James 3:16)**
- **Am I being considerate?**
- **Am I listening? – (James 1:7)**
- **Am I taking out my frustrations on the wrong people?**
- **Have I been neglecting my study of God’s Word?**
- **How is my prayer life?**
- **Am I striving to be like Jesus? – (1Cor 11:1)**



Essential Building Blocks

Much like our physical nutrition, if something is missing, our bodies let us know about it. If something is missing in this context, our relationships will let us know about it. Some things that must be in place in order for me to be the best example I can be are:

- **I must cultivate a deep love for God. (Matthew 22:37-38, Joshua 23:11-13,)**
- **I must meditate on God’s Word. (Joshua 1:8, Psalm 1:2)**
- **I must develop a consistent prayer life. (1 Thessalonians 5:17)**
- **I must develop a love for others. (Matthew 22:39, Matthew 5:44)**
- **I must be courageous. (Deuteronomy 31:6, Joshua 1:6, 2nd Chronicles 17:6)**

Families of Faith

Transformed Life

None of us are perfect, nor will we ever be. Romans 3 teaches us this important principal. However, another important thought upon which to dwell is that we (as Christians) live transformed lives.

- Just because we have had a habit of doing some of the things earlier discussed in a negative light, does not mean we have to continue that trend! (Romans 12:1-2)
- The Greek word used in this passage for the word transformed literally means to “change into another form.”
- The Greek word used in this passage for “renewing” our minds literally means “A complete renovation.”
- Malachi the 3rd chapter introduces to us the “Refiner’s fire.” This was the process of refining silver. We must allow the refiner to get rid of all the impurities from our life, so that we can be the man/woman that we need to be for our families.



Discussion!

- **What are some ways we can show selflessness to our families?**
- **How can we avoid taking frustrations out on the wrong people?**
- **When you are faithful in your study of the Bible, do your relationships benefit from that?**
- **Which of the “building blocks” is most difficult to keep in its proper place in your life?**
- **What are some ways that we must be courageous within our families?**
- **What are some examples of a “transformed life?”**

“YOU CAN’T TEACH WHAT YOU DON’T KNOW, AND YOU CAN’T LEAD WHERE YOU DON’T GO.”