

Sermon 18 Mar: 40-Day Co-Visioned 5, Our Relationship with One Another

Introduction

Last week, we looked at how we are like trees. What's important to the tree isn't just its fruit, but its root system. When the root system is well grounded, nutrients are abundant and the leaves in turn look vibrant and the tree bears fruit abundantly. We desire the fruit but we all need to focus on the root system. (Jer 17:5)

The crux of today's message is resolving conflicts with one another. With God as our Centre, our relationship with each other is really Faith-Based.

When our relationship with each other is one we cannot live without, we will form vibrant wells of Living Waters.

1 John 4:7-13 NIV84

Dear friends, let us love one another, for love comes from God. Everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is love. This is how God showed his love among us: He sent his one and only Son into the world that we might live through him. This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins. Dear friends, since God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. No one has ever seen God; but if we love one another, God lives in us and his love is made complete in us. We know that we live in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit.

Romans 8:12-13, 15-17 NIV84

Therefore, brothers, we have an obligation—but it is not to the sinful nature, to live according to it. For if you live according to the sinful nature, you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the misdeeds of the body, you will live, For you did not receive a spirit that makes you a slave again to fear, but you received the Spirit of sonship. And by him we cry, “Abba, Father.” The Spirit himself testifies with our spirit that we are God's children. Now if we are children, then we are heirs—heirs of God and co-heirs with Christ, if indeed we share in his sufferings in order that we may also share in his glory.

Dry wells...

A dry well forms when we think we can live without God's family.

Rom 8:13a

For if you live according to the flesh, you will die

1 John 4:8

Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is love.

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A well is a shaft driven into the ground to draw liquid, gas or oil; it is thus a natural attraction that meets peoples' needs.

As a church, we must recognise that we have something people need. Even our physical presence is important to others around us.

Rom 8:12-13

Therefore, brothers and sisters, we have an obligation—but it is not to the flesh, to live according to it. ¹³ For if you live according to the flesh, you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the misdeeds of the body, you will live.

In these verses, Paul is actually addressing the church, us.

What is our response when someone says something to us that may not be pleasing to us?

We have a choice. Ask ourselves what God is saying to us!
Love others enough, and this becomes easier. (1 John 4:8)

Vibrant wells...

A vibrant well forms when we realise we cannot live without God's family.

Rom 8:14

For those who are led by the Spirit of God are the children of God.

1 John 4:7

Dear friends, let us love one another, for love comes from God. Everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God.

We are all led by the same spirit. We are collectively sons of God. We have the same Father. We MUST come to this realisation in order to recognise that we are ALL part of God's Big Family! Only then will we become Vibrant wells of Living Waters!

Question: How real is our salvation?

If we cannot love each other or live with one another, does the Holy Spirit really live in us?

What we have inside is evident in how we treat each other. If we find it difficult taking care of the things of God, we need to ask if we really have God in us at all!

Rom 8:17

Now if we are children, then we are heirs—heirs of God and co-heirs with Christ, if indeed we share in his sufferings in order that we may also share in his glory.

This is a fulfilled promise. We are His children and heirs to God's Kingdom (1 Jn 4:13)

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Conclusion

God defines our family relationship with each other.

How?

Isa 12:1-3

In that day you will say:

"I will praise you, LORD.

*Although you were angry with me,
your anger has turned away
and you have comforted me.*

² Surely God is my salvation;

I will trust and not be afraid.

*The LORD, the LORD himself, is my strength and my defense^[a];
he has become my salvation."*

*³ With joy you will draw water
from the wells of salvation.*

**The reason we are able to gather is because of our common source of life.
Is God our source or our strength? Is He FLOWING from within us?**

We must learn to add God into our relationships.