

September 12, 2020

Fall 2020 Family Emphasis - Real Home Improvement

This month we are emphasizing building and growing healthy family relationships. I am thankful for our *Faith@Home* Family Ministry Team in leading our efforts. This weekend we are focusing on Marriage Enrichment. Healthy marriages do not happen by accident. Like all loving relationships they require work and dedication. **Our church is**

Hosting the Marriage Night in a virtual event format. You can participate right from our own home. This is an opportunity to offer people principles for a lasting relationships while challenging them to see the greater purposes God has designed for marriage. Its not too late to register and attend! See this link for more information: <https://www.marriagenight.org/>



Sunday I will preach on the subject of *"Marriage Makeover - Essentials for Healthy Relationships"*. I will be building on what I believe is THE key relational principle of all - Ephesians 5:21. Paul calls us to *"be submissive to one another out of reverence For Christ."*

Please note: I know we are focusing on marriage but these principles apply to everyone in whatever state we find ourselves in. These principles are for everyone and enhance every relationship.

This Sunday in my message on relationships, I will use an illustration I believe I have used before from the story of S.S. Poseidon. There is a powerful relational lesson in this story. When it comes to trusting God's Ways to healthy relationships sometimes *"down is up and up is down"*.

The ship S.S. Poseidon was broadsided by a huge wave during a storm in the movie, *The Poseidon Adventure*. Men and women were dressed in ballroom attire. As water crashed into the ballroom, they began to run, screaming and running for safety. During all the confusion, the ship flipped over.

Because of the air trapped inside the ocean liner, it floated upside down. But in the confusion, the passengers couldn't figure out what was going on. They scrambled to get out by climbing the steps to what they thought was the top deck.

Keep this picture in mind: the top deck was now 100 feet under water. Trying to get to the top of the ship meant they were going down and they would drown.

They only people to survive were those who followed the leadership of a man who told them to follow him. **He led then to do what did not make sense.** When this ship flipped over in the storm, down was up!

There are times in marriage and relationships when it seems things have turned upside down. God's pathway to hope sometimes does not seem to make sense. **It will take faith to trust in His ways that lead to life and lead our relationships to a place we have never been before!**

I hope you will join us! Either in person or on Facebook Live this Sunday at 10:30AM.

Gripped by His Grace...

Pastor Garry

"We are a faith fellowship of believers on our journey together with our Lord... meeting needs, mending hearts."