

## 1 Chapter 17

Securing Our Inner Courts

## 2 Understanding Honor

- ▶ A system where we validate the worth of someone
- ▶ A system that aligns with God-given authority, not our own judgement of what a person has merited – thereby agreeing with God that the position of the person is worthy of respect
- ▶ A system that seeks the well-being and respect of others, even when doing so will house no direct benefit on ourselves

## 3 Respect & Submission

- Yet while gates separate us as an individual and establish our rights, God calls us to submit to others whenever possible.
- Submission is an act of love, and doesn't in any way take away our spiritual authority and rights as children of God.
- This primarily means we can believe, think or feel with autonomy, without a human being telling us who we are, what we should or how we should feel.

IF WE YIELD TO THE AUTHORITY BEHIND A PERSON WHO IS DIRECTING US AWAY FROM THE TRUTH OF GOD, WE ARE NOT SUBMITTING, BUT YIELDING OUR WILL WRONGFULLY

## 4 Marriage & Family Gates

- ▶ Husband – needs respect more than any other role. He thrives when respected as authority. Respect motivates him, but disrespect offends him.
- ▶ Women – need to be honored in love, not feel that she is hired. Love motivates her, but disrespect breaks her, leading to rebellion or shut-down.
- ▶ Children – need to be respects with ability to make choices at the proper maturity levels. Neglect is disrespecting a children's right to need.

## 5 Gate of Expectations

- Forming reasonable expectations occurs as we are aware of our emotional weakness and are aware of our tendency to deny
- Honoring our family members/close friends/co-workers/bosses meant we validate them positioning, we merit their worth, but we meet them

where they are at. Faulty expectations dishonor people as it sets them up for failure.

## 6 **Conflict with Unevenly Yoked**

- If someone is a non-believer, we can't have many expectations placed on them
- We must learn to use the authority we have in Jesus Christ in the proper way – we can't usurp the order of God.
- See worksheet

## 7 **Resolving conflict**

Intimacy is gained through forgiveness and grace, not performance.

1. Assess my part.
2. Assess the other person's responsibility
3. What does God's truth say?
4. How might the enemy be working?

Identifying the problem sets the stage for healthy confrontation.

## 8 **Conflicts in the family**

- All family conflicts are best resolved by learning to speak the truth in love.
- Each family member needs to learn to individually work on each relationship. That means both parents must encourage the children to work directly with each parent.
- In the same respect, parents need to learn to work with each other, and keep the child outside of the line of discussion and disagreement.
- In fact, in a loving family, the goal will always be for the peace, wholeness and healthy relationship of each family member towards each other.

## 9 **Ways we can work through problems:**

- ▶ We can point out our perspective or point of view – without using words that say “you are”. This means we are simply offering our side, not pointing fingers.
- ▶ We can explain how we are feeling as a result of behavior or words

that were exchanged. WE must avoid “You made me feel hurt”, but learn to simply say “I am feeling hurt.”

- ▶ We can be specific, and not rely on our own assumptions by trying to “mind read” or make improper accusations that are not based on facts
- ▶ We can be absolutely sure we ran our own heart check first and are not simply emotionally reacting.
- ▶ We can be willing to take criticism or negative feedback – being willing to hear something that may oppose the ending we desired
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