

Family Focus

The Vertical and the Horizontal

Review & Introduction:

Our Vertical Relationship and our Horizontal Relationships:

1. The vertical relationship is the _____ relationship.
 - a. From the beginning to the end of Scripture our primary relationship is with the one and only true _____.
 - i. Genesis 1 – Man’s _____ relationship was with God.
 - ii. Deuteronomy 5 – Man’s relationship to God comes _____ in the 10 commandments.
 - iii. Deuteronomy 6:4-5
 - iv. Matthew 22:35-40 – The _____ commandment is to love God
 - v. Colossians 1:18 – Our primary relationship as believers is with our _____.
 - vi. Revelation 21:3 – Primary relationship in heaven
 - b. Applications:
 - i. The _____ is essential.
 - ii. Growing in grace and knowledge of Christ is _____.
2. The vertical relationship demands that our horizontal relationships are lived for the glory of God
 - a. As seen by various New Testament writers:
 - i. Paul: Colossians 3:1-12
 - ii. James: James 2:1
 - iii. John: 1 John 4:20 – 5:5
 - b. Applications:
 - i. Horizontal relationship issues are rooted in _____ relationship issues.
 1. Sentimentalism: We value things/relationships more _____ than God does.
 2. Brutalism: We value things/relationships more _____ than God does.
 - ii. Horizontal relationship “_____” are rooted in faith and obedience to our Lord Jesus Christ.

Discussion Questions:

1. What have you been learning from God's Word?
2. How have you applied or shared what you are learning in your family relationships this week?
3. How have you applied what you are learning in other relationships this week?
4. What lesson hit home the most from the series "Family Focus"?
5. What spiritual discipline has encouraged you the most in your relationship with the Lord?
6. Why is it easier to focus on other people rather than our relationship with the Lord when there are relational issues?
7. Is there relationship "success" that you would like to praise God for or is there an area in which you would like your small group to pray?
8. Enjoy a great season of prayer!