

**How To Become Wiser In Relationships (2 of 4)**  
**“How To Bring Out The Best In Relationships”**  
**Cornerstone Church of Poway**  
**Pastor Ed Turley**  
**May 21, 2023**

**Big Idea:** If we want healthier relationships, we must apply God’s wisdom/truth.

“Now I appeal to Euodia and Syntyche. Please, because you **belong** to the Lord, **settle** your disagreement.<sup>3</sup> And I ask you, my true partner, to **help** these two women, for they **worked hard** with me in **telling others the Good News**. They worked along with Clement and the rest of my co-workers, whose names are written in the Book of Life.<sup>4</sup> Always be full of joy in the Lord. I say it again—rejoice!<sup>5</sup> Let everyone see that you are considerate in all you do. Remember, the Lord is coming soon.”

**Philippians 4:2-5 (NLT2)**

**To Bring Out The Best In My Relationships, I Will:**

**1. Think The Best.**

**If I think the worst:** I expect the worst and the relationship is always under pressure for failure.

**If I think the best:** My positive attitude encourages them to live up to my belief in them.

<sup>6</sup> Don’t worry about anything; instead, pray about everything. Tell God what you need, and thank him for all he has done. <sup>7</sup> Then you will experience God’s peace, which exceeds anything we can understand. His peace will guard your hearts and minds as you live in Christ Jesus. <sup>8</sup> And now, dear brothers and sisters, one final thing. Fix your thoughts on what is true, and honorable, and right, and pure, and lovely, and admirable. Think about things that are excellent and worthy of praise. <sup>9</sup> Keep putting into practice all you learned and received from me—everything you heard from me and saw me doing. Then the God of peace will be with you.”

**Philippians 4:6-9 (NLT2)**

**Is there an interest of others that I am overlooking?**

## 2. Speak The Best.

**If I say the worst:** (he never/she always) they are discouraged before they start.

**If I say the best:** they are motivated to strive for excellence.

“Do everything without complaining and arguing, so that no one can criticize you.”

**Philippians 2:14 (NLT)**

“Don’t use foul or abusive language. Let everything you say be good and **helpful**, so that your words will be an **encouragement** to those who hear them.”

**Ephesians 4:29 (NLT)**

“Don’t just pretend to love others. Really love them. Hate what is wrong. Hold tightly to what is good. Love each other with genuine affection, and take delight in honoring each other.” **Romans 12:9-10 (NLT)**

## 3. Be The Best.

**If I act the worst:** I bring out the worst in others.

**If I act the best:** I bring out the best in others.

“As a prisoner for the Lord, then, I urge you to live a life **worthy** of the calling you have received.” **Ephesians 4:1 (NIV)**

“Be completely **humble** and **gentle**; be **patient**, bearing with one another in **love**. Make every effort to keep the **unity** of the Spirit through the bond of **peace**.”

**Ephesians 4:2-3 (NIV)**

“Let us think of ways to **motivate** one another to acts of love and good works. And let us not neglect our **meeting together**, as some people do, but encourage one another, especially now that the day of his return is drawing near.”

**Hebrews 10:24-25 (NLT)**

➤ What does love require of me this week?

**To bring out the best in my relationships, I will:**

[ ] Think the best by believing they have the best intentions.

[ ] Say the best by writing a note of encouragement to someone.

[ ] Be the best by acting in the way I want others to treat me.

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**Begin with prayer:**

**Open:** Who are the three people in this world that you love the most?

**Big Idea:** If we want healthier relationships, we must apply God’s wisdom/truth.

**Read Philippians 4:2-9**

**To Bring Out The Best In My Relationships, I Will:**

**1. Think The Best.**

Discuss these concepts:

- If I think the worst: I expect the worst and the relationship is always under pressure for failure.
  
- If I think the best: My positive attitude encourages them to live up to my belief in them.

**Read Philippians 4:6-7**

How can I pray for my relationship?

**Read Philippians 4:8**

How can this verse help me think about the best of others?

List some interests of others that you may be overlooking:

## 2. **Speak The Best.**

Discuss these concepts:

- If I say the worst: (he never/she always) they are discouraged before they start.
- If I say the best: they are motivated to strive for excellence.

### **Read Philippians 2:14**

What do I tend to complain about most often?

### **Read Ephesians 4:29**

What are some words I need to avoid?

What are some words I need to say more often?

How is my timing on things that I normally say?

*Hurtful? Mostly, OK? Encouraging?*

### **Read Romans 12:9-10**

What is one thing I can do to honor a relationship this week?

## 3. **Be The Best.**

Discuss these concepts:

- If I act the worst: I bring out the worst in others.
- If I act the best: I bring out the best in others.

### **Read Ephesians 4:1**

How can I live a life worthy of my calling better this week?

### **Read Ephesians 4:2-3**

Which attribute do I need to exhibit more this week? Why?

### **Read Hebrews 10:24-25**

Why is it important to make Sunday Worship a priority in my relationships?

If I am the only one that goes to church, will it still help?

**Close in Prayer:** \_\_\_\_\_

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