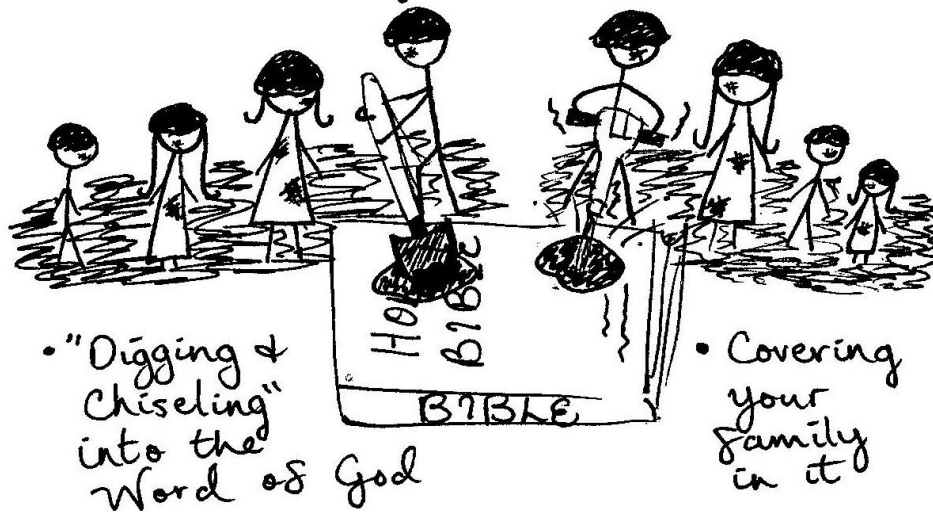


"Family Devotions"



Week of September 15, 2019
Family Devotion # 36

Beloved,

As we are making our way through the book of Deuteronomy during the Sunday morning worship service we have come to chapter five which contains the Ten Commandments.

As we have been studying the commandments, we have learned that the first four are "vertical" so to speak. They have to do with our relationship with God. The last six commands have to do with our "horizontal" relationships with others.

I have listed below some Bible verses and helpful aids in building healthy relationships.

1. Love God.

Matthew 22:36-38:

36 "Teacher, which is the great commandment in the Law?" **37** And He said to him, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind." **38** This is the great and foremost commandment.

2. Love others.

Matthew 22:39-40:

39 The second is like it, 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' **40** On these two commandments depend the whole Law and the Prophets."

THE SEVEN A's OF CONFESSION

1. Address everyone involved (All those whom you affected)
2. Avoid if, but, and maybe (Do not try to excuse your wrongs)
3. Admit specifically (Both attitudes and actions)
4. Acknowledge the hurt (Express sorrow for hurting someone)
5. Accept the consequences (Such as making restitution)

6. Alter your behavior (Change your attitudes and actions)
7. Ask for forgiveness

See Matthew 7:3-5; I John 1:8-9; Proverbs 28:13.

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Also, in the book *The Peace Maker*, by Ken Sande one reads about the following that I have summarized for quick reference. This information is discussed from page 102-109. The author does not leave the reader there, he continues by giving a cure for an idolatrous heart in the following section of the book.

Conflict with others starts in the heart.

The progress of an idol.

1. I desire.
2. I demand.
3. I judge.
4. I punish.

I do recommend this book by Sande, the ISBN number of my copy is:
0-8010-6485-6 (pbk.) There may be a newer revised edition out now.

This is right in keeping with our vision, help people love Jesus and everyone else!

Blessings,

Pastor Gary