

# The Joy of Relevance

- A Vision of what the future could/should be
  - Joshua
  - ER Pre School
  - Ashley (family or friend)
  - (your vision)
  
- A Mission Plan (resources, assets and tools)
  - Joshua
  - ER Pre School
  - Ashley (family or friend)
  - (your mission)
  
- Personal Ministry (The Courage to be Relevant)
  - Joshua
  - ER Pre School
  - Ashley (family or friend)
  - (your ministry)

## VISION – An Example of Marriage

Father's advice to son before the wedding

“Love your wife and love your kids”

## MISSION

Wives and Husbands

Eph. 5

22 Wives, submit[e] to your husbands as to the Lord, 23 because the husband is the head of the wife as Christ is the head of the church. He is the Savior of the body. 24 Now as the church submits to Christ, so also wives are to submit to their husbands in everything. 25 Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ loved the church and gave himself for her 26 to make her holy, cleansing[f] her with the washing of water by the word. 27 He did this to present the church to himself in splendor, without spot or wrinkle or anything like that, but holy and blameless. 28 In the same way, husbands are to love their wives as their own bodies. He who loves his wife loves himself. 29 For no one ever hates his own flesh but provides and cares for it, just as Christ does for the church, 30 since we are members of his body.[g] 31 For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two will become one flesh.[h] 32 This mystery is profound, but I am talking about Christ and the church. 33 To sum up, each one of you is to love his wife as himself, and the wife is to respect her husband.

## MINISTRY

Wives, Husbands, Children

I Cor. 13

4 Love is patient, love is kind. Love does not envy, is not boastful, is not arrogant, 5 is not rude, is not self-seeking, is not irritable, and does not keep a record of wrongs. 6 Love finds no joy in unrighteousness but rejoices in the truth. 7 It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

# In the Kingdom...

## Vision, Mission, Ministry

### VISION

#### Matt. 22-37-40

37 He said to him, “**Love the Lord your God** with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind.[a] 38 This is the greatest and most important[b] command. 39 The second is like it: **Love your neighbor** as yourself.[c] 40 All the Law and the Prophets depend[d] on these two commands.”

### MISSION

#### Matt. 28:18-20

...Go, therefore, and make disciples of[a] all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, 20 **teaching them to observe everything I have commanded you.** And remember,[b] I am with you always,[c] to the end of the age.”

# Ministry

## A Living Sacrifice

### Romans 12

1 Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God—this is your true and proper worship. 2 **Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind.** Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will.

### Humble Service in the Body of Christ

3 For by the grace given me I say to every one of you: Do not think of yourself more highly than you ought, but rather think of yourself with sober judgment, in accordance with the faith God has distributed to each of you. 4 For just as each of us has one body with many members, and **these members do not all have the same function,** 5 so in Christ we, though many, form one body, and each member belongs to all the others. 6 We have different gifts, according to the grace given to each of us. If your gift is prophesying, **then prophesy** in accordance with your[a] faith; 7 if it is serving, **then serve;** if it is teaching, **then teach;** 8 if it is to encourage, **then give encouragement;** if it is giving, **then give generously;** **if it is to lead,[b] do it diligently;** **if it is to show mercy, do it cheerfully.**

### Love in Action

9 Love must be sincere. Hate what is evil; cling to what is good. 10 Be devoted to one another in love. Honor one another above yourselves. 11 Never be lacking in zeal, but keep your spiritual fervor, serving the Lord. 12 Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer. 13 Share with the Lord's people who are in need. Practice hospitality.

14 Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse. 15 Rejoice with those who rejoice; mourn with those who mourn. 16 Live in harmony with one another. Do not be proud but be willing to associate with people of low position.[c] Do not be conceited.

17 Do not repay anyone evil for evil. Be careful to do what is right in the eyes of everyone. 18 If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone. 19 Do not take revenge, my dear friends, but leave room for God's wrath, for it is written: "It is mine to avenge; I will repay,"[d] says the Lord. 20 On the contrary:

"If your enemy is hungry, feed him;  
if he is thirsty, give him something to drink.  
In doing this, you will heap burning coals on his head."[e]

21 Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

# Seven Questions

- Using “I” statements, how might you apply this lesson?
- Will anybody notice if you apply it?
- Why would you not want to apply it?
- Will it be easy to make this change?
- Do you think you will have support to change?
- Will your life be easier if you apply this lesson?
- Have you had to make this kind of decision before?