

# God's Blueprint for Relational Renovation

Guided Growth with Pastor Keith @ CBC Sunday, March 15<sup>th</sup>  
God's Role in our Relationships

## Reflection: Pt 1: God's as the Designer of Relationships, including:

- The Parts of this partnership. (Ecc. 4:12) "a threefold cord"
- The Process of this partnership: Mal 2:14-15. (Companionship, Covenant, Commitment)
- The Purposes for designing this Partnership: Pleasure (Pr. 5:19), Procreation (Gen. 1:22); Partnership (1 Pt 3:7); Protection (Eph. 5:23-25); Pattern (Eph. 5:31-33)
- The Promise of God's Design Ps. 127; Eph. 5:21-33; Col. 3:18-21; 1 Pt 3:1-7

**Direction:** God does not just want to be the Designer (architect) of our relationships (Marriage); But the "Developer" or General Contractor!

### As the Developer of Relationships God:

#### 1. Knows the "codes" necessary to build for both time and eternity.

(1 Tim. 4:8; 1 Cor 3:10-15)

##### A. We tend to focus on temporary happiness.

1) Lasting (Eternal) holiness is more important than temporary happiness. 2 Cor 4:16-18

1) What's behind the walls /wallpaper/ veneer Is more important than what's on them!

##### B. Relationships are designed to be both blessed, and bruising!

1) They don't make us better or worse: they merely reveal & intensify what's already there.

(Ro. 7:18; Gal 5:19-21) Pr 18:22,23 *"Life & death are in the power of the tongue.."*

*"Whoso findeth a wife findeth a good thing, and obtaineth favour of the LORD."* (Pr. 9:8-10; Col. 4:6)

2) Relationships in general, and marriage in particular expose our flaws:

a) Not to shame us, but to shape us! (Ro. 8:28,29; Eph. 5:26,27; 1 Jn. 1:9; 1 Peter 3:1-7)

b) Intimacy → Into me see! Ro 7:18

##### C. Successful relationships (marriages) demand a divorce; *from our self love!*

1) God's command to "Put off our flesh" (Col 3:1-9) comes before His blueprint for Marriage relationships in Col. 3:18-25

D. While God's "preparing a place" for us (John 14:1,2; 21), *He's preparing us for that place.* (Ro. 8:28,29; Jms 1:3-5; 1 Peter 1:7; Rev. 19:7,8)

#### 2. Knows the storms we'll face, so He wants us to use quality materials!

##### A. We often build our relationships out of "broken" material.

1) The "strongholds" of stinking thinking. Ro. 1:28; Ro 12:2; 2 Cor 10:3-5

2) The temporary (worldly) values, philosophies and priorities of this world.

a) The "wood, hay, stubble" of 1 Cor 3:9-15

b) The Worldly "wisdom" of James 3:13-16

c) The temporary "lusts" of 1 Jn 2:15-17

## **B. God uses the “storms” of life to reveal:**

- 1) What’s beneath the surface. (Mt. 7:24-27)
- 2) What’s truly valuable! (2 Cor 4:16-18; Ro. 5:3-5; James 1:2-5; 1 Pt 1:7)

### **Conclusion:**

1 Cor 3:9-16 *“we are laborers together with God: . . . , ye are God’s building.*

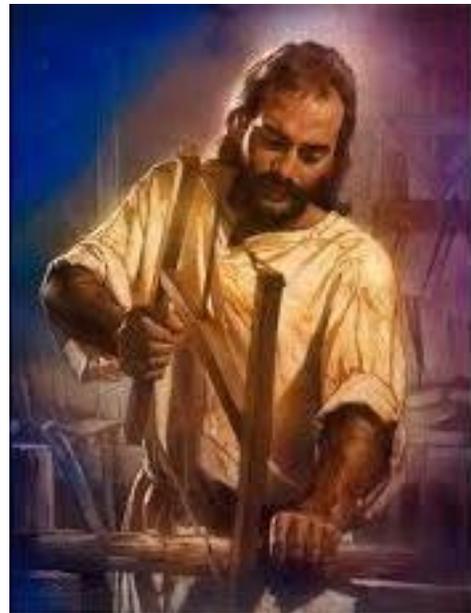
*According to the grace of God which is given unto me, as a wise masterbuilder, I have laid the foundation, and another builds thereon. But let everyone take heed how he builds thereupon. For other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ. Now if any man build upon this foundation gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, stubble “Every man’s work shall be made manifest: for the day shall declare it, (See 2 Cor 5:10) . . . of what sort it is. (Eternal or Temporary) If any man’s work abide which he hath built thereupon, he shall receive a reward. If any man’s work be burned, he shall suffer loss: Yet he shall be saved, yet so as by fire. Know ye not that ye are the temple of God, and that the Spirit of God dwelleth in you?”*

### **Application:**

**Since this day is inevitable, why not invite the “building inspector” into your home/heart/relationships now, while there is still time to recognize, repent, and renovate!**

1 Cor 11:28 *“But let a man examine himself. . . 30 For this cause many are weak and sickly. . . 31 For if we would judge ourselves, we should not be judged. 32 But when we are judged, we are chastened of the Lord, that we should not be condemned with the world.”*

Heb 12:9-11 *“...shall we not much rather be in subjection unto the Father of spirits, and live? For they verily for a few days chastened us after their own pleasure; but he for our profit, that we might be partakers of his holiness. Now no chastening for the present seems to be joyous, but grievous: nevertheless afterward it yields the peaceable fruit of righteousness unto them which are exercised thereby.”*



## **God’s Good at Renovation!**

**Mt. 11:28-30**

**1 Cor 3:9**

**Isaiah 61:1-3**