

Isight-Who's in Your Circle?-9/7/08

Ever thought about the power of a relationship?

Ill- Power of relationship-I've had a couple deaths of people in my family, a great grandma and an uncle, neither of which I knew very well. Their deaths didn't really do anything to me. I went to their funerals and I was sad, but I remember being more emotional over the fact that my mom was so upset, it was her brother and grandma, than anything else. This is my own flesh and blood dying and my emotional meter wasn't really moved.

Then I remember what it was like when my best friend left for the Naval Academy. I was wrecked. I didn't matter that he would be home every few months for holidays and stuff like that. It didn't matter that we would be able to talk on the phone every week if we wanted. The day that he left I was this blubbering mess. All week I moped about in my jammies, singing sad songs and eating microwave burritos and ice cream straight from the container.

John 1:1-2 (Slide)

- The beginning of history as we know it starts with a relationship.

John 1:3-4 (Slide)

- Out of that relationship came life.
- Deep theological stuff we could spend lifetimes on, but one thing we see clearly is that is that even the very creation of existence comes in the context of relationship.

t>> just how powerful were relationships meant to be?

John 2:1-11

Vs 1-2 (Slide)

- Jesus is busy picking out his disciples. Creating his team that's going to be with him for the next 3 years and he makes time for these people's wedding.
- The 1st thing he does after he's gathered his team is go to a wedding.
- Jesus took time out just to be with people. It was important. Traveled a long way (Slide).
- With the role that his mother's in we can guess he's known to the bride and groom (not wedding crashers Jesus style)
- He gets into their world rather than expecting them to get into his. Doesn't wait for them to show up at church before he starts being a part of their lives, he goes to where they are.

Real relationships get into one another's world

TV commercials- Real dads- Dancing and cheerleader (Clip???)

One of biggest regrets was not getting into the world of a friend I had in middle school. Came from an entirely different life than me. Immigrant, only one who spoke English in his family, lived in this tiny house on the south side. Would invite me over to his house and I would always work it so we ended up at mine.

- Power of relationship pulls Jesus across the country to a wedding as he is gathering his disciples to him
- How into others worlds are you?

Vs 3-5 (Slide)

- Wasn't planning on doing a miracle. Simply wanted to be there.
- Holds a genuine concern for them. Could be fined for running out of wine. Have you ever run out of something at a wedding? We ran out of mini chimmis at ours and my grandma hit a kid over the head with a chair to make sure she got some.

Real relationships hold a genuine concern.

- Some people I don't want to know what's troubling them, others I'll drop everything to know.

Ex. seeing the caller ID and ignoring

- The power of a relationship causes Jesus to act even when it's not his time/he's not planning on it
- How often do you act in the lives of others?

Vs 6-11 (Slides)

- People are left with a lasting image of God transforming the tarnished and dirty, the broken and useless, the damaged and imperfect

Relationships offer hope

Ill-Just need someone to be with **(Slide)**- Golden retriever and tiger cubs. This is done quite often. The relationship helps the animals grow into what they are supposed to.

- Power of relationship causes Jesus to paint picture of hope

Closing

Do you value the relationship? Do you realize how big and impacting relationships are?
Who are you with?
Not a means to an end