

May 22, 2016

FOUR RELATIONSHIPS WE CANNOT LIVE WITHOUT

Deut. 6:1-9; Mark 12:28-31

Our relationship with God. Deut. 6:1-6; Mark 12:28-30

- There is only **one** God. (He is our **priority**.) Deut. 6:3-4; Ex. 20:3-4; Is. 43:10-11; 44:6-7; 45:5-7, 14
- This only one God **deserves** our all. Deut. 6:5; Mark 12:28-29

Our relationship with the family. Deut. 6:7-9; Gen. 1:26-27; 2:7, 18-25

- God is the **originator** of the family. Gen.1:26-27; 2:7, 18-25
- God gives us **guidelines** and principles for our families. Deut. 6:7-9; Prov. 22:6; Eph. 5:21-33; 6:1-4; Col. 3:18-21; 1 Pet. 3:1-9; 1 Cor. 13:4-7

Our relationship with others (believers and non-believers).

Mark 12:31

- Love **others** as we love God. Mark 12:28, 31; 1 John 4:7-8; John 13:34-35; 1 Cor. 13:4-7; Matt. 5:13-16
- Love others by finding ways to **minister** to them. Luke 10:25-37; Matt. 25:35-40; James 2:14-16

Our relationship as the Body of Christ (the church and church membership).

- **Being** in the Body of Christ and church membership. Rom. 3:23; 6:23; 10:9-10; Eph. 2:1-10, 13-16; 1 Cor. 5:2, 12-13; 10:27; 12:1-30; 1:2; 2 Cor. 1:1; Gal. 1:2; 1 Thess. 1:1; 2 Thess. 1:1
- Function **within** the Body of Christ. 1 Cor. 12:1-30; 1 Pet. 4:10-11; Matt. 5:13-16; 1 Cor. 13:4-7

THE CHURCH'S IDENTITY AND PURPOSE

"There are some who think of the church as an organization like other organizations. It is true that the church is an organization, but it is not primarily an organization. Rather, it is a new way of life. Those who have the view that being a part of the church is like being a member of a lodge, a luncheon club, a political party, or even a business are seriously mistaken. Such people feel that they should give to the church the same kind of support and loyalty which they give to these other organizations. It becomes my church, as it is 'my club, or lodge, or party, or team.' The Christian's loyalty to Church, however, should be unique, for in reality it is a loyalty to Christ and His way of life. The church is like no other institution on earth and a person's membership in the church is like no other membership which he may sustain. The church is more like a vibrant, living organism, than it is like a cold, structured organization... Some make the mistake of thinking that the church...exists for the entertainment and enjoyment of its members. On the contrary, the church exists in order that its members may have an intimate relationship with Christ and God, as well as a close relationship with mankind."

The Family of God

Batsell Barrett Baxter