

Priority of Relationships – “6 P’s”

- 1) **Person of God – First Relationship upon creation of Man – Gen 2. Time alone with God, prayer, Bible study.**

- 2) **Partner – Second relationship after creation of man - Gen 2**
 - a) **Husband and Wife Scriptures**
 - i) **Husband: Learner (1 Pet 3:7) / Lover (Eph 5:25) / Leader (Eph 5:23)**
 - ii) **Wife: Fan (Eph 5:33) / Follower (Eph 5:22) / Finisher (Gen 2:20-24)**
 - b) **Financial responsibility - 1 Tim 5:7-8 for each other (food, shelter, clothing). As well, this should take into account the warnings concerning the possible hardships stemming from incurring, maintaining, or failing to pay down debt such as:**
 - i) **It produces bondage to the creditors. (Pro. 22:7; 2 Ti. 2:4)**
 - ii) **It may presume upon the future. (Pro. 27:1; Jas. 4:13-14; Lk. 12:16-21)**
 - iii) **It may give the illusion of independence. (Jas. 4:14-17)**
 - iv) **It may prevent self-examination. (2 Ki. 4:1)**
 - v) **It may remove barriers to harmful items. (Jas. 4:3; 1 Ti. 6:9)**
 - vi) **It may demonstrate discontent with the basics. (1 Ti. 6:8)**
 - vii) **It may devour resources through high interest rates.**
 - viii) **It may promote impulse buying. (Pro. 19:2)**
 - ix) **It may cause overspending. (Ecc. 5:10)**

- 3) **Parent – Third relationship after the creation of man.**
 - a) **Spiritual responsibilities: Deut 6, Eph 6:4**
 - b) **Physical responsibilities God requires: 1 Tim 5:7-8. This also should take into consideration the warnings on the possible hardships the Bible warns of concerning debt (referenced in #2 Partner, above).**

- 4) Parishioner - Eph 4:11-13 use of Spiritual gifts in the church.

- 5) Provider - 2 Thess 3:10-12, 1 Tim 5:7-8, Eph 6:5 (This is best understood recognizing that #2 & 3 above have been accomplished – one must provide for the family such that they have shelter, clothing and food, but to choose employment that is above what is absolutely necessary, one should not take a job that does not allow him time to use his gifts to serve in the body.).

- 6) Player/Hobbies/Recreation - 1 Tim 6:17; 1 Peter 2:12

We always seem to make time for what our “gods” want us to do. However, I must remember that the one true God will always give me time to do what He wants me to do.

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