

PILLARS

BUILDING RELATIONSHIPS THAT LAST

Sermon Discussion Guide - Relationships (Power Dynamics)

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WARM UP QUESTION: If you had supernatural power, what would you do with it?

READ: Genesis 1:27-28 (ESV)

FOCUS: God created us with power. Following the example given by Jesus, we should use that power to strengthen and uplift others.

OBSERVE:

- Jesus used His power to heal the broken, lift up the downtrodden, speak truth into darkened hearts and free the oppressed. He had the authority and power to dominate - but chose instead to serve.
- Jesus did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, but emptied Himself, by taking the form of a servant...He humbled Himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross (Phil. 2:6-8).

DISCUSS:

1. How did Jesus take on the punishment for our sins?
2. How is righteousness and the indwelling of the Holy Spirit connected?
3. What does redeemed mean?

TAKE ACTION:

- What happens when you resist the urge to control others?
- Where does a person's value come from and how is that value to be used?
- What are some of the things the gospel tells us?

PRAY: Holy Father, help us to know our purpose in relationships that are dear to us. Help us to relate to others well. Fill our hearts with humility, love and genuine compassion for others. We ask these petitions in Jesus' name, Amen.