INCREASING THE VALUE OF YOUR RELATIONSHIPS Growing Healthy Relationships Part 1 Dr. Mark Jackson, April 26, 2017

Ezekiel 18:5, 9 Imagine a person who lives well, treating others fairly, **keeping good relationships**— ⁹ ...This person who lives upright and well shall live a **full and true life**. Decree of GOD, the Master. (MSG)

Through **APPRECIATION**

Romans 13:7 Pay all that you owe, whether it is taxes and fees or <u>respect and honor</u>. (CEV)

What Should I Appreciate About Others?

1. APPRECIATE PEOPLE'S LOYALTY

Philippians 1:3, 5, 7a <u>I thank my God for you</u> every time I think of you; ⁵ because of the way in which you have helped me in the work of the gospel <u>from the very first day until now</u>. ⁷ ...both now that I am in prison and also while I was free to defend the gospel and establish it firmly. (TEV)

2. APPRECIATE PEOPLE'S <u>DIFFERENCES</u>

Colossians 3:13, 15 Be patient and tolerant with one another, always <u>ready to forgive</u> if you have a <u>difference with anyone</u> ... for you were called to <u>live as one united</u> body, and always be thankful." (PH)

3. APPRECIATE PEOPLE'S EFFORTS

- 1 Thessalonians 1:2-3 We always thank God for you all and always mention you in our prayers. ³ For we remember before our God and Father how you <u>put your faith</u> into practice, how your love made you work so hard... (TEV)
- **1 Thessalonians 5:12** ...we ask you to <u>appreciate those who work hard</u> among you... (NCV)

How Should I Appreciate Others?

1. IT NEEDS TO BE REAL

Romans 12:9a Don't just pretend that you love others: really love them. (LB)

Proverbs 28:23 In the end, people appreciate frankness more than flattery. (NLT)

2. IT NEEDS TO BE <u>RECOGNIZABLE</u>

1 Corinthians 16:18b You must **show your appreciation** to all who serve so well. (NLT)

Proverbs 12:25 Worry weighs us down; but a cheerful word picks us up. (MSG)

3. IT NEEDS TO BE REGULAR

2 Thessalonians 2:13 But we must **always thank God for you**... (NJB)

Galatians 6:10 ... whenever we can we should always be kind to everyone, and especially to our Christian brothers. (LB)

Isaiah 53:3 He was despised and rejected and forsaken by men, a Man of sorrows and pains, and acquainted with grief and sickness; and like One from Whom men hide their faces He was despised, and **we did not appreciate His worth** or have any esteem for Him. (AMP)