

Daily Devotion for the Family of Berea and Zion and All who would be encouraged.

from Rev. John E. Trembulak III

Monday-Thursday, August, 3-6, 2020

***Ecclesiastes 4:9-12 – Two are better than one, because they have a good reward for their toil. For if they fall, one will lift up his fellow. But woe to him who is alone when he falls and has not another to lift him up! Again, if two lie together, they keep warm, but how can one keep warm alone? And though a man might prevail against one who is alone, two will withstand him—a threefold cord is not quickly broken.”***

I have been having the pleasure of spending some time in this last while with two couples, Nico and Emily, and Travis and Rebecca. They are both planning to be married by me in the upcoming weeks. I spend some times with them in pre-marital classes to get to know them better and they get to know me. We talk to help equip them for this thing called marriage, something that it difficult to navigate as many of you can attest to. It takes patience, forgiveness, love, kindness, compassion, and a whole host of other gifts to make it work. We talk about all sorts of things, from being a husband and wife, to sexuality, to conflicts, to being a parent, to God’s vision of love. We talk about their past, and their future, and what God envisions for couples in a God pleasing marriage and how He will supply what they need.

In these Covid-19 days, I have been reading a lot that marriages are on extra shaky ground these days. Being quarantined, being limited in contact with others, to not being “out and about” as much has put a strain on some people relationships. For some it has become dangerous. For others it has broken down completely.

But it doesn’t have to be that way or remain that way. For the new relationships, the struggling relationships, the broken ones, and for the healthy ones as well, I invite you to consider this list of 10 thoughts of wisdom to help strengthen and renew your relationship. Some will be familiar, some may be new, some are merely a reminder to keep your relationship in check. I will share two a day over the next week. I pray that they will benefit and renew you and refresh your relationship.

The bold statement comes from the websites: Family First, All Pro Dad, iMOM, and Family Minute.

- 1) **Always put your spouse first.** If a husband is thinking of the good and welfare for his wife first and foremost, not only is she blessed, but the natural response for the wife is to be thinking of the good and welfare for her husband first. It is a natural win-win all the way around and draws people close.
- 2) **Have fun together.** Watch a movie, go for a drive, a walk, play a game, have a campfire, sit on the front porch together. Enjoying one another’s company in these adjusted days is an opportunity and brings one another close.

More next time...

*Prayer: Lord, thank You for the relationships we enjoy. Much is a joy, but we also have difficulties. Renew our minds in our relationships to value our spouse, and placing them and their needs ahead of our own as we enjoy life together. In Jesus’ Name we pray. AMEN.*

PJT3

Daily Reading: Wed – Luke 11: 14-26  
Thurs – Job 5:8-16

Daily Hymn: Wed – LSB # 915 (vs. 1-2)  
Thurs – LSB # 915 (vs. 3-4)