

Domestic Violence Show Notes

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Human beings are created in God's image.

Genesis 1:26,27, 5:1, 9:6; James 3:9; 1 Corinthians 11:7

We are to honor one another:

Romans 12:10; Philippians 2:3; 1 Peter 2:17; Ephesians 5:21; 1 Corinthians 12:26;
1 Thessalonians 5:12-13

The Bible says our words are powerful and we are NOT to use words to harm others.

See: Psalm 52:2-5; 55:2-5; 59:3, 69:20

Proverbs 12:6,18; 13:1, 14:21; 15:2, 18:21, 19:5, 25:18; 26:18-19

1 Corinthians 12:26, 16:10-11

Romans 12:9-10; James 1:26; 3:4; Ephesians 4:25; 1 Timothy 3:2-9; Colossians 3:5

Dishonoring is especially harmful in an intimate relationship such as marriage. It qualifies as domestic abuse.

How do we look at domestic violence Biblically?

1. It is always a sin.
2. Dishonoring (abuse of others) is never an acceptable excuse for being provoked or even sinned against. We are each responsible for our own behaviors, attitudes, and actions.
3. Domestic abuse is not about headship or submission. Headship does not give a husband "authority" power OVER a wife to remove her agency (choice) from her own authority. Her "no" is hers alone.

Power WITH: Proverbs 15:12; 27:17; Ecclesiastes 4:9; 1 Corinthians 3:9; 12:12; Ephesians 4:16; Romans 12:4,5; Hebrews 10:25

Power UNDER: 1 Peter 4:10; Philippians 2:34; Galatians 6:2

Power OVER (Never Biblically Sanctioned): Ephesians 6:9; Deuteronomy 24:14; Colossians 3:19; Psalm 73:8; Leviticus 25:43; Ex 22:22; Jeremiah 22:17; Zech 7:10; Proverbs 22:22

Jesus specifically warned his future “leaders of the church” NOT to misuse their authority OVER others. Power under and power with are the only acceptable uses of “biblical authority”.

“You know the rulers in this world **lord it over** their people, and their officials **flout their authority over** those under them. (POWER OVER). But among you it will be different.

Whoever wants to be a leader among you must be your servant.” — Jesus

Matthew 20:25; Mark 10:42-45; Luke 22:25,2

How do we respond if we are in an abusive relationship?

“Do not be overcome with evil but overcome evil with good.” (Romans 12:21)

1

It is good to protect yourself and steward your safety.

Proverbs 22:3; Joshua 2:4-6 (Rahab lied to keep the Jewish spies safe, She is commended in the Hebrews chapter on Faith (Hebrews 11). Joseph fled to Egypt when Herod sought to kill baby Jesus (he didn't just “obey” the authorities and trust God). Matthew 2:13

2

It is good to speak the truth in love and expose the unfruitful deeds of darkness.

Ephesians 4:15; Ephesians 5:11

3

It is good to allow the sinner to experience the consequences of sin in the hopes that the consequences will help him wake up and change.

Proverbs 19:19; 13:18; 22:8. Romans 1:24-28; 2 Thess 3:10; Galatians 6:7,8

4

It is good to “see” the fruit of repentance before reconciling with someone who has harmed you. (You may choose to forgive him, but not reconcile)

Matthew 3:8; Matthew 18:15-17; Luke 3:8-14; Acts 26:20; 2 Corinthians 7:9-11; James 2:17,18

Sometimes “trust” is permanently broken. Some consequences are permanent and don't go away just because you are repentant. (David's abuse of Bathsheba – God forgave David, but he still lost the child and lost his kingdom, See 2 Samuel 12)

5

It is good to be gracious to your enemy.

Jesus calls us to love our enemy. (Matthew 5:43,44; Luke 6:35,36). This is for YOUR benefit, so that you are not infected with the poison of hatred and resentment. Loving an enemy does not mean living with them, kissing them, or sharing a bed or bank account. Most times, enemies remain unsafe. That's why they are called enemies; they have harmed you. Yet you continue to allow their poison to harm you when you return evil for evil. See the story of Joseph in Genesis 37-50, especially 50:19.