

Keep thy heart with all diligence; for out of it  
are the

# Issues of Life

- Proverbs 4:23



# Introduction

## Proverbs 4:23

Keep thy heart with all  
diligence; for out of it are the  
issues of life.



# The Heart

## Defining the Heart

(Referenced 943x in the Bible)

- It is Connected to our Thoughts
  - Genesis 6:5 And GOD saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every imagination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually.
- It is Connected to our Emotions
  - Genesis 6:6 And it repented the LORD that he had made man on the earth, and it grieved him at his heart.
- It is Connected to our Will
  - Exodus 7:3 And I will harden Pharaoh's heart, and multiply my signs and my wonders in the land of Egypt.
- It is who we Are
  - The phrase “said in his heart” is used multiple times through the bible





# --- The Tendency of the Heart

- Jeramiah 17:9
  - The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked: who can know it?
- Mark 7:21-23
  - For from within, out of the heart of men, proceed evil thoughts, adulteries, fornications, murders, Thefts, covetousness, wickedness, deceit, lasciviousness, an evil eye, blasphemy, pride, foolishness: All these evil things come from within, and defile the man.



# What Are Issues?

Websters 1828

Issue = The act of  
passing or flowing  
out;

Life flows from our  
Heart







# Keep thy Heart

- Personal Responsibility (thy)
- Cultivate Righteousness (Keep)
  - Psalm 51:10
  - 1 Timothy 1:5
- Be Diligent (with all diligence)



# The Issue of Relationships

Ecclesiastes 4:9

Two are better than one; because they have a good reward for their labour.

# 5 Important Relationships

- Parental Relationships
- Sibling Relationships
- Friendships
- Church Relationships
- Marriage Relationships





# You and Your Parents

## Proverbs 17:6

Children's children are  
the crown of old men;  
and the glory of  
children are their  
fathers.





# Obey Your Parents

Ephesians 6:1

Children, obey your  
parents in the Lord:  
for this is right.

Colossians 3:20

Children, obey your  
parents in all things:  
for this is well pleasing  
unto the Lord.






# Honor Your Parents

## Exodus 20:12

Honour thy father and thy  
mother: that thy days may  
be long upon the land  
which the Lord thy God  
giveth thee.



# Benefits of a Good Relationship

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- Beauty
  - Proverbs 1:8-9
- Spirituality
  - Colossians 3:20
- Life
  - Ephesians 6:3
- Peace
  - Ephesians 6:3





# The Results of Rebellion

- Proverbs 30:17
- Leviticus 20:9
- Proverbs 17:25





# You Only Have One Life

James 4:14

Whereas ye know not  
what shall be on the  
morrow. For what is your  
life? It is even a vapour,  
that appeareth for a little  
time, and then vanisheth  
away.



A group of four children are smiling and looking towards the camera. They are outdoors in a garden setting with a brick house and some outdoor furniture visible in the background. The image has a dark overlay to make the text stand out.

# Sibling Relationships

Psalm 133:1

Behold, how good and how pleasant it is  
for brethren to dwell together in unity!

# The Blessing of Siblings

Proverbs 17:17

A friend loveth at all times, and a brother is born for adversity.

1 Peter 3:8

Finally, be ye all of one mind, having compassion one of another, love as brethren, be pitiful, be courteous:





# Siblings in the Bible

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Cain & Abel

Esau & Jacob

Rachel & Leigha

Joseph & Brothers

Moses, Aaron, & Meriam

David & Eliab

Mary, Martha , & Lazurus



# Responsibility to Protect

## Miriam protected Moses

Exodus 2:4

And his sister stood afar off,  
to wit what would be done to  
him.





# Tendency of Envy

Every single sibling mentioned  
dealt with envy

Proverbs 27:4

Wrath is cruel, and anger is  
outrageous; but who is able to  
stand before envy?



# Danger of Anger

- Cain killed Abel
- Josephs brothers sold him
- Eliab mocked David

## Proverbs 16:32

He that is slow to anger is better than the mighty; and he that ruleth his spirit than he that taketh a city.



# Different Personalities

- Rachel and Leigha
- Mary and Martha

## Romans 12:4

For as we have many members in one body, and all members have not the same office:

Office = a doing, a mode of acting, a deal, a transaction





# The Importance of Forgiveness

Joseph forgave his  
brothers

Genesis 50:20

But as for you, ye thought evil against me; but God meant it unto good, to bring to pass, as it is this day, to save much people alive.

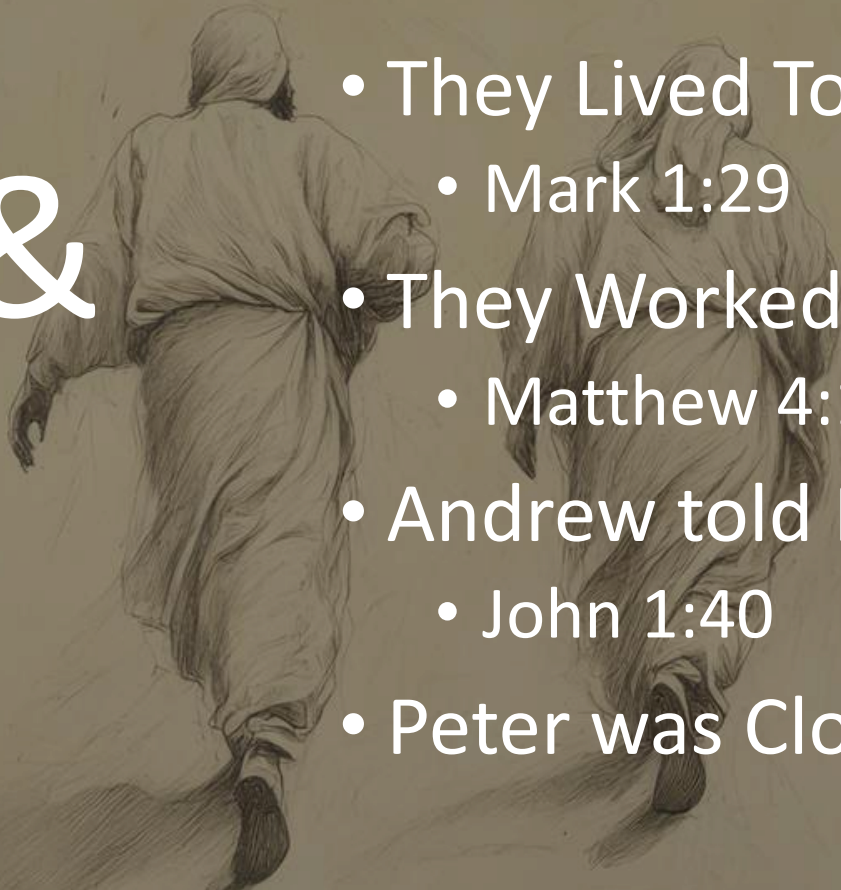
Ephesians 4:32

And be ye kind one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ's sake hath forgiven you.



# Andrew & Peter

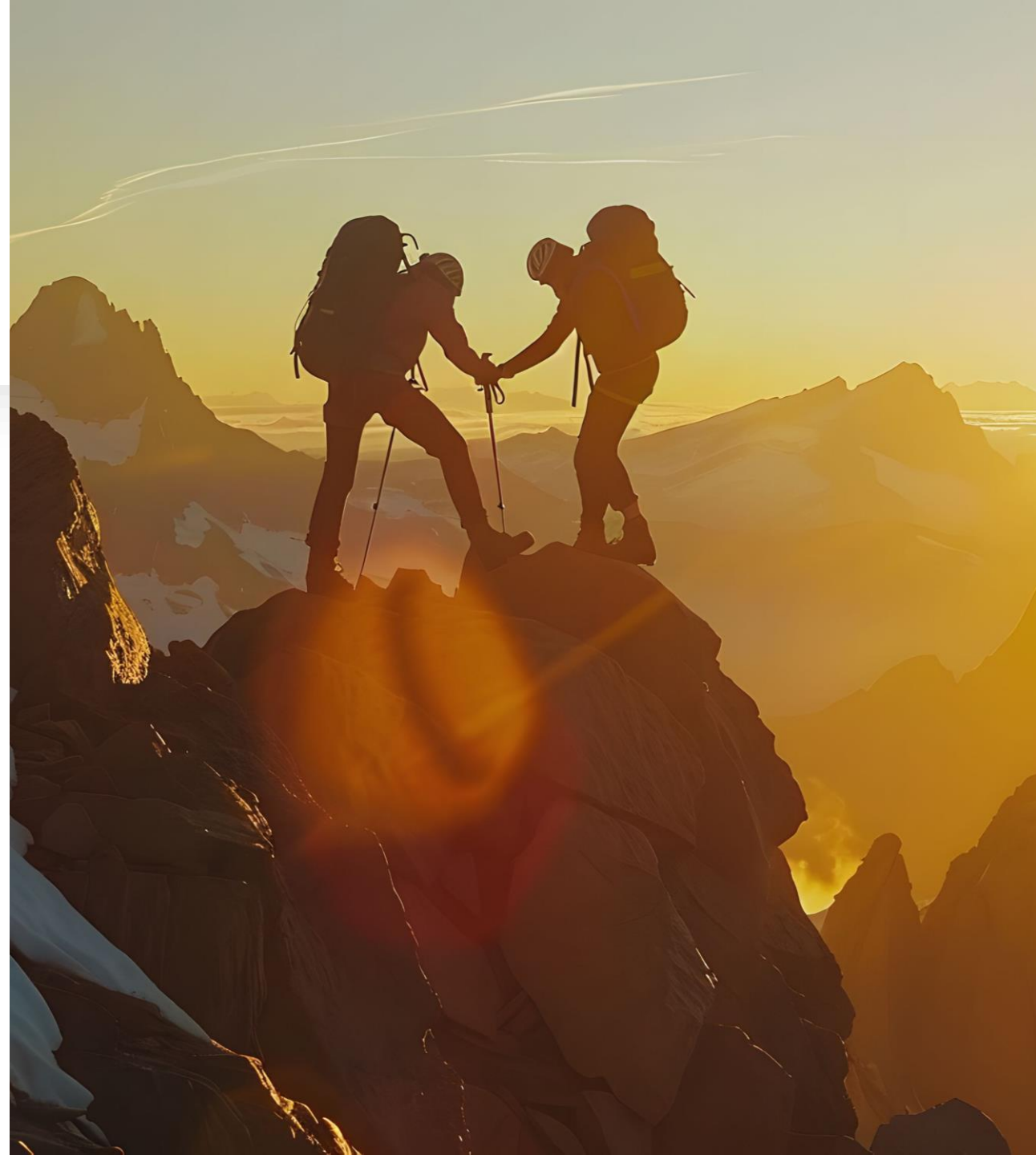
- They Lived Together
  - Mark 1:29
- They Worked Together
  - Matthew 4:18
- Andrew told Peter about Jesus
  - John 1:40
- Peter was Closer to Jesus



# Friendship

Ecclesiastes 4:9

Two are better than  
one;...





# Various Friendships

- Acquaintances
- Seasonal Friends
- Casual Friends
- Lifelong Friends
- Close Friends
- Best Friends



# The Benefits of Friendship

- Safety
  - Ecclesiastes 4:10
- Strength
  - Ecclesiastes 4:12
- Development
  - Proverbs 27:17
- Joy
  - Proverbs 27:9
- Warning
  - Proverbs 27:6





# The Responsibility of Friendship

- Friendliness
  - Proverbs 18:24
- Faithfulness
  - Proverbs 17:17
  - Proverbs 27:10
- Confidence
  - Proverbs 17:9
- Sacrifice
  - John 15:13



# The Dangers of Friendship

## Proverbs 13:20

He that walketh with wise men shall be wise:  
but a companion of fools shall be destroyed.

## Proverbs 22:24-25

Make no friendship with an angry man; and  
with a furious man thou shalt not go: 25 Lest  
thou learn his ways, and get a snare to thy soul.

## 2 Samuel 13:3

But Amnon had a friend, whose name was  
Jonadab, the son of Shimeah David's brother:  
and Jonadab was a very subtil man.





# Satanic Friendship

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Flattery  
Jealousy  
Questioning  
Authority  
Selfishness  
Manipulation





# Church Relationships

## Hebrews 10:25

Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching.



# The Benefits of the Church

- Purpose
  - Romans 12:4
- Preaching
  - 2 Timothy 3:16
- Praise
  - Colossians 3:16
- Prayer
  - 1 Timothy 2:1
- Power
  - Acts 2:46





# Your Relationship with your Pastor

- Respect
  - 1 Timothy 5:17
- Receive
  - 1 Peter 5:2
- Follow
  - 1 Corinthians 11:1
- Confide
  - Proverbs 20:18





# Our Relationship with *One Another*

- Love One Another
  - John 13:34 & 15:12,17
- Prefer One Another
  - Romans 12:10
- Accept one Another
  - Romans 15:7
- Help One Another
  - Galatians 6:2
- Forgive One Another
  - Colossians 3:13
- Encourage One Another
  - Hebrews 3:13



# The Danger of Division

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Galatians 5:15 & 5:26

Titus 3:3

1 Corinthians 12:25

Proverbs 6:16





# The Marriage Relationship

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## Genesis 2:24

Therefore shall a man leave his father and his mother, and shall cleave unto his wife: and they shall be one flesh.

# A Biblical Marriage

- A Man and a Woman
  - Genesis 1:27
- A Monogamous Union
  - 1 Corinthians 7:2
- A Lifelong Commitment
  - Romans 7:2
- It is Orchestrated by God
  - Genesis 2:22
- It is a Covenant Between a Man, a Woman, and God
  - Matthew 19:6





# The Blessings of Marriage

- Companionship
  - Genesis 2:18
- Completion
  - Genesis 2:18
- Connection
  - Song of Solomon 3:4
- Children
  - Psalm 127:3



# Singlehood



It's better to be  
single wanting to  
be married than  
to be married  
wanting to be  
single



# Learning not Lonely

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- Learn to Love God
  - Matthew 6:33
- Learn Responsibility
  - Genesis 2:15
- Learn Personal Obedience
  - Genesis 2:16
- Learn to Stay Busy
  - Genesis 2:20
- Learn to Love Your Family
  - Matthew 19:5





# The Gift of Singleness

- It is a Rare Gift
  - Matthew 19:12
- It is not Commanded
  - 1 Corinthians 7:6

## Reasons for the Gift

- Persecution
  - 1 Corinthians 7:26
- Limited Time
  - 1 Corinthians 7:29
- Total Commitment
  - 1 Corinthians 7:32



# The Dangers of Singlehood

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- Don't become Bitter
  - Psalm 27:14 Wait on the LORD: be of good courage, and he shall strengthen thine heart: wait, I say, on the LORD.
- Don't become Desperate
  - Proverbs 21:9 It is better to dwell in a corner of the housetop, than with a brawling woman in a wide house.
- Don't be Seduced
  - Proverbs 7:21 With her much fair speech she caused him to yield, with the flattering of her lips she forced him.
- Don't become Isolated
  - Genesis 2:18 And the LORD God said, It is not good that the man should be alone;