

**Review:**

- Vision, Mission, Process – SCMD
- This last week, we came to understand that we are becoming ministers because of our ministering, God is shaping us to become like Him.
- To arrange your life so that you can experience sharing Christ (purpose), connection (relationship), and ministry (God’s mission). To do otherwise is to limit yourself to less than God designed you to have.
- It’s Labor Day weekend—right work in the right places is so important for a follower of Jesus!
- We work not to get people saved but because of the truth: we have a Ministering God.

**What do we believe about God’s word?**

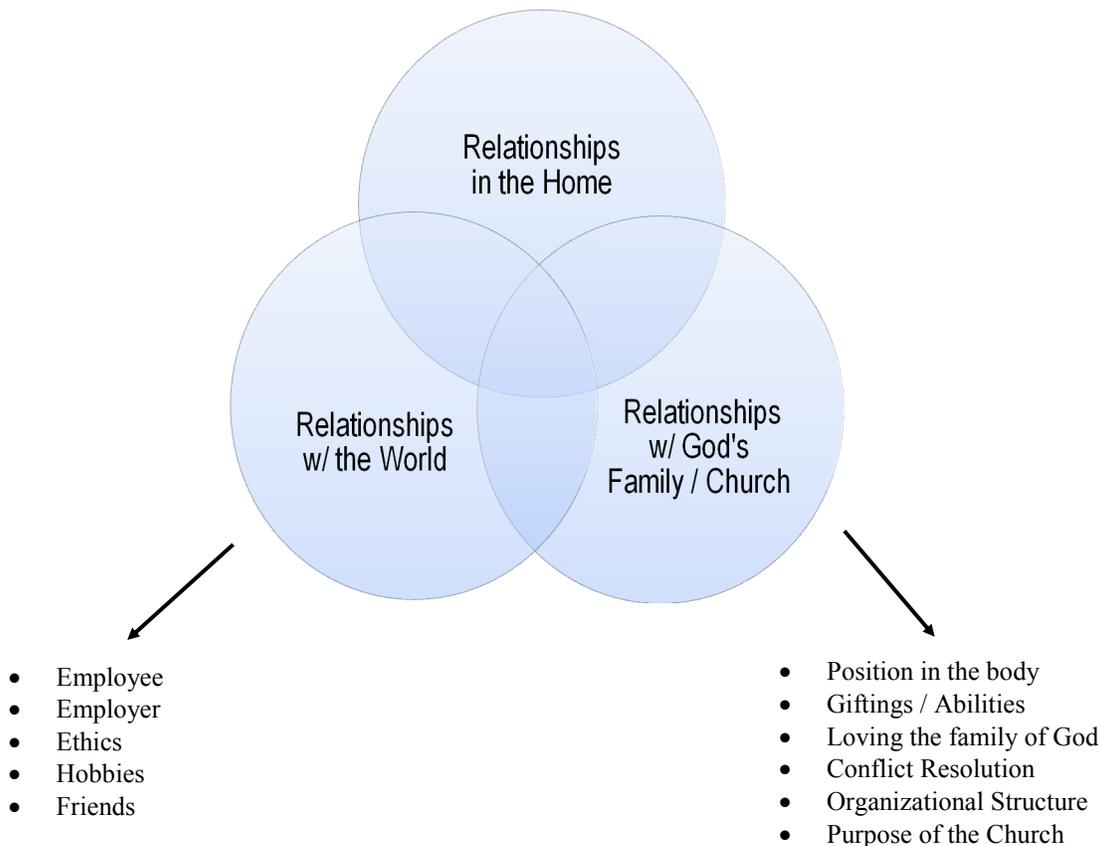
- God’s Word directs us into His plan in every part of our lives.
- Gods’ Word is our guide for discipleship; we are called to obey all Jesus’ commands.

**2 Timothy 3:16–17** (NIV) <sup>16</sup>All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, <sup>17</sup>so that the servant of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.

**Matthew 28:19–20** (NIV) <sup>19</sup>Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, <sup>20</sup>and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.

**The four spheres—the book of Ephesians**

1. Ephesians 1 & 2, John 15: Jesus and me
2. Ephesians 3 & 4: Me and the church
3. Ephesians 5 & 6: Me and the family
4. Ephesians 6: Me and my job



## Important Truths:

**1 Peter 4:7–11** (NIV) <sup>7</sup>The end of all things is near. Therefore be alert and of sober mind so that you may pray. <sup>8</sup>Above all, love each other deeply, because love covers over a multitude of sins. <sup>9</sup>Offer hospitality to one another without grumbling. <sup>10</sup>Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God’s grace in its various forms. <sup>11</sup>If anyone speaks, they should do so as one who speaks the very words of God. If anyone serves, they should do so with the strength God provides, so that in all things God may be praised through Jesus Christ. To him be the glory and the power for ever and ever. Amen.

**1. Jesus First**—this gives me the power and direction to move into every other area in my life.

- Jesus and His things are my priority.
- The Sabbath is given because God knows time with Him fuels and directs what we do in the rest of our time.
- This reprioritizes us so that we can influence others in the areas of our lives where we intersect with people.
- We cannot save people when we are drowning; stay on the rock and pull them towards us rather than being pulled towards the world’s priorities.
- I am only a minister when I am reminded and changed by Jesus.

**2. The Church Family**

- The reason for God putting this first? It’s in the Church that we learn to be God’s version of family.
- The Father, the Wife, the children—it’s in the Church that we become disciples, and we see a different way rather than reproducing what we came from.

**3. The Home: husbands, wives, and children.**

- As we walk with Jesus, He leads us to influence our family.
- The temptation we feel: our kids will not like church or Jesus because they feel like they are missing something with their friends. Our job is to lead; when they won’t, we put Jesus first.
- A couple of examples this last few weeks:
  - The dad and his daughter
  - The AGT example of little girls
  - Blake and his daughters—leading them have right priorities rather than helping them worship an idol.

**Proverbs 14:26–27** (NIV) <sup>26</sup>Whoever fears the LORD has a secure fortress, and for their children it will be a refuge.

<sup>27</sup>The fear of the LORD is a fountain of life, turning a person from the snares of death.

**4. The World: our mission field!**

- The man in my group and the lawyer he worked for.
- It’s tough to be in a world where those with wrong priorities will set the standards for believers.

**Romans 12:1–2** (NIV) <sup>1</sup>Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God’s mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God—this is your true and proper worship. <sup>2</sup>Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God’s will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will.

## Questions to meditate on and discuss at home and in your life group:

1. What stands out to you in this sermon?
2. What passage from the sermon stood out to you as exceptionally meaningful? Come back to it through the week!
3. What has challenged your thinking and perspective? How will you respond?
4. How will this impact your relationships with God, your family, your life group, your coworkers?
5. What is your next step based on this sermon? Share it with someone, and do it!