

How to respond to people

WHEN PEOPLE ARE BIG AND GOD IS SMALL

Step 5: Examine where your desires have been too big.

Step 6: Rejoice that God has covered your shame, protected you from danger, and accepted you. He has filled you with his love.

Ephesians 3:14-19 For this reason I bow my knees before the Father, 15 from whom every family in heaven and on earth is named, 16 that according to the riches of his glory he may grant you to be strengthened with power through his Spirit in your inner being, 17 so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith—that you, being rooted and grounded in love, 18 may have strength to comprehend with all the saints what is the breadth and length and height and depth, 19 and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.

STEP 7: _____ other people less, _____ other people more. Out of obedience to Christ, and as a response to his love toward you, _____ others in love.

Ephesians 5:1-2 Imitate God, therefore, in everything you do, because you are his dear children. 2 Live a life filled with love, following the example of Christ. He loved us and offered himself as a sacrifice for us, a pleasing aroma to God.

Loving people brings God _____ and fulfills His _____ for us.

John 15:5 I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing.

John 15:10 If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love.

John 15:12 This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you.

The Way God Responds to...

God _____ the voices of the oppressed and won't _____ enemies to ultimately _____.

Psalm 10:17-18 *O Lord, you hear the desire of the afflicted; you will strengthen their heart; you will incline your ear to do justice to the fatherless and the oppressed, so that man who is of the earth may strike terror no more.*

Proverbs 24:19-20 *Fret not yourself because of evildoers, and be not envious of the wicked, for the evil man has no future; the lamp of the wicked will be put out.*

Our response: _____ God. _____ your enemy.

Matthew 5:43-49 *“You have heard that it was said, ‘You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy.’ 44 But I say to you, Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, 45 so that you may be sons of your Father who is in heaven. For he makes his sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the just and on the unjust. 46 For if you love those who love you, what reward do you have? Do not even the tax collectors do the same? 47 And if you greet only your brothers, what more are you doing than others? Do not even the Gentiles do the same? 48 You therefore must be perfect, as your heavenly Father is perfect.*

Romans 5:10 *...our friendship with God was restored by the death of his Son while we were still his enemies...*

Romans 12:17-21 *Repay no one evil for evil, but give thought to do what is honorable in the sight of all. 18 If possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. 19 Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave it to the wrath of God, for it is written, “Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord.” 20 To the contrary, “if your enemy is hungry, feed him; if he is thirsty, give him something to drink; for by so doing you will heap burning coals on his head.” 21 Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.*

Loving people correctly requires _____ and _____

1 Peter 3:14 *But even if you should suffer for righteousness' sake, you will be blessed. Have no fear of them, nor be troubled*