

left Jesus for what? A life crumbling around insecure things.

Thank God that in Jesus we have a solid foundation to build our life on. An eternal life, that isn't crumbling, coming to an end. But a life that is growing in our relationship with Jesus as we are coming into his loving presence. I always thank God that I'm not coming to an end, but Jesus will embrace me and welcome me home to join him in his celebration of life. In Jesus, life will only get better. Way

beyond our wildest dreams.

So let's continue to take the time to grow this most precious of all relationships. Enjoying Jesus' rule in our lives, freeing up all our other relationships to be the recipients of Jesus' love, lived through us.

Let us pray.  
Jesus we thank, praise and adore you for loving us more than your own life. Thank you for seeking us out so that we can enjoy living with you as our God, the one true God.

Free us from the deceptions that surround us and through the power of the Holy Spirit may we sell everything we have into living for you, as we take up our cross and follow Jesus. Jesus, thank you for being the bedrock of our lives. Amen.

25 May 2008

## Building Healthy Relationships.

### A Healthy Relationship with God



If you want to build a solid house that will stand the test of time, what do you need? You'd definitely need a solid foundation, and a good plan to follow when you're building. Without these two important aspects you won't end up with a house that will endure. You might use the best of appliances, the finest fittings, beautifully cut stone work and a colour bond roof, but it won't last, and it would be a nightmare to construct. A solid foundation and a good plan are essential.

The same is true of any relationship, you need a solid foundation and a good plan to

implement. Over the next four weeks we'll be looking at building healthy relationships, and using the ten commandments as our guide. The first three commandments focus us on our relationship with God. Commandments 4,5,6 look at building healthy relationships between other people. Commandments 7 to 10 we'll use as a guide on how we build environmentally healthy relationships.

The first three commandments: 1: I am the Lord your God. Do not have any god except me. 2: Do not misuse the name of the Lord your God. 3: Remember God's special day and keep it holy. These

commandments point to the solid foundation we can build the rest of our relationships on.

Jesus points us this way in our Gospel reading for today; "Seek first his (The Father's) kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well." (Matthew 6:33)

A foundation gives the building the strength it needs to face the storms of life. And I don't need to tell anyone that with life there comes storms. Storms that at times take the wind right out of you. Storms that shake you to your core. Thank God, he's our core in

## Christ Church Lutheran

Worship Times - 9.00am & 10.45am  
Pastor: Tim 0427326553  
Edmund 0429041957



Reaching Out with the Love of Jesus that All my Know, Worship & Grow in Christ

Jesus. And his love, mercy, grace, forgiveness, his personal commitment to each of us is rock solid.

of one feeds contempt for the other. You can't worship God and Money both." (Matthew 6:24 Message) Any relationship falls apart where there is divided loyalty.

storm, financial catastrophe, or death can alter. That's the bedrock of our life in Christ. That's also the bedrock for all our relationships.

Isn't it great that God never bails out on us in the midst of the storm, but comes into the storm with us that we might weather it and come through closer to him and stronger in our character.

In Jesus you can know one thing for sure: Jesus we have bedrock security.

It is also our antidote to worry. Worry comes from insecurity, but in Jesus we have bedrock security.

**"You can't worship two gods at once..."**

"Has anyone by fussing in front of the mirror ever

I love the fact that in the first commandment we have a God who is continually inviting us into a closer relationship with him. But for that to happen we are reminded today that it can't be a relationship of divided loyalties.

certain, when it comes to God's love for you, there is no divided loyalty. He has given himself totally for you. That's the story of Jesus life: he wasn't half born, it is a total act. He don't half die, it is a total act. And Jesus certainly wasn't half raised, it is a total act, because in Jesus God totally commits himself to you. That is rock solid, the foundation that no

gotten taller by so much as a centimetre? All this time and money wasted on fashion – do you think it makes that much difference? Instead of looking at the fashions, walk out into the fields and look at the wildflowers... If God gives such attention to the appearance of wildflowers – most of which are never even seen – don't you think he'll attend to

"You can't worship two gods at once. Loving one god, you'll end up hating the other. Adoration

foundation that no

you, take pride in you, do his best for you?" (Matthew 6:27-30 Message)

Will friends let you down? Of course they will. Everyone makes mistakes. Thank God that's not the foundation of our lives, other-wise what would we have. In Jesus we have the gift of forgiveness, the gift of reconciliation, the strength to heal a relationship and not be left with hurt feelings, being disappointed in each other. My friends are not my God, the reason I live, neither are my children. They're to be the recipients of God's love through me.

A love I have to give because I'm first of all loved by God, in Jesus, through the Holy Spirit. I'm free

to give away the love I have in Jesus, because I know he won't let me down. My source of life is limitless.

Have you noticed how when you put limits on things you can become a little stingy? If I've only

**Build a solid foundation Jesus loves you.**

got ten dollars to spend, I'll think carefully about what I put it towards. If I've got ten million dollars I might be a little freer in my spending. If you had a limitless supply of wealth, what could you do?

In Jesus, God has given each of us a limitless supply of love, of grace, of mercy and forgiveness. Amazingly the more

we give away of these the more we get. We can never out give God.

Today I read the story of the rich young man who asked Jesus what he had to do to get eternal life. Jesus answer was; "...go, sell your possessions and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven. Then come, follow me." (Matthew

19:21) This person balked at trusted Jesus completely. He couldn't do without his nice home, comfortable chair, lavish food, he couldn't trust Jesus with his life, and so he left Jesus. To be left with what?

Things that don't love him. Things that are wearing out. Things that will loose their appeal. Things someone else will take when he dies. He