

September 13, 2015

## *Our Lives Under Construction Returns*

*A series on building healthy relationships in our marriages,  
our homes, our workplaces, our friends, and our world!*

### *“Finishing Touches – Getting Ready for Guests”*

#### *Part 7 – Interior/Landscaping*

*“Being confident of this, that He who began a good work in you  
will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus.”*

**Philippians 1:6**

**So...remember...**

#### **A. I was created to be in relationship...**

*“So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he  
created him; male and female he created them.”*

*“The LORD God said, ‘It is not good for the man to be alone. I will  
make a helper suitable for him.’” Genesis 1:27, 2:18*

1. I am created in God’s image.

*“So God created man in his own image...” Genesis 1:27a*

2. I am created to be in relationship with God.

*“Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one’s life for one’s  
friends.” John 15:13*

*“Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul  
and with all your mind and with all your strength.” Mark 12:30*

3. I am created to be in relationship with others.

*“The second is this: ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’ There is no  
commandment greater than these.” Mark 12:31*

*“We don’t always live what we profess,  
but we always live what we believe.” –Wilson (1995)*

#### **B. What I think will determine what I do...**

*“Don’t copy the behavior and customs of this world, but let God  
transform you into a new person by changing the way you think.  
Then you will learn to know God’s will for you, which is good and  
pleasing and perfect.” Romans 12:2 NLT*

1. To change my actions, I must know the truth.

*“Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.”  
John 8:32*

2. To change my thinking, I must change my belief  
system.

*“He went on: ‘What comes out of a man is what makes him  
‘unclean.’ For from within, out of men’s hearts, come evil thoughts,  
sexual immorality, theft, murder, adultery, greed, malice, deceit,  
lewdness, envy, slander, arrogance and folly.’” Mark 7:20-22*

3. To change my actions, I must change my heart.

*“The good man brings good things out of the good stored up in his  
heart, and the evil man brings evil things out of the evil stored up in  
his heart. For out of the overflow of his heart his mouth speaks.”*

**Luke 6:45**

#### **C. God is the author of boundaries in relationships...**

*“And the LORD God commanded the man, ‘You are free to eat from  
any tree in the garden; but you must not eat from the tree of the  
knowledge of good and evil, for when you eat of it you will surely  
die.’” Genesis 2:16-17*

1. Healthy boundaries bring safety, security, order,  
and freedom.

*“It was you who set all the boundaries of the earth; you made both  
summer and winter.” Psalm 74:17*

2. Healthy boundaries take ownership for  
responsibility.

*“‘Have you eaten from the tree that I commanded you not to eat  
from?’ The man said, ‘The woman you put here with me—she gave  
me some fruit from the tree, and I ate it.’” Genesis 3:11b-12*

3. Healthy boundaries take responsibility for my  
choices.

*“The son said to him, ‘Father, I have sinned against heaven and  
against you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son.’”*

**Luke 15:21**

*“To forgive is to set a prisoner free and  
discover that the prisoner was you.” –Lewis B. Smedes*

#### **D. When I let go of my past...forgiving and being forgiven...I am free to develop healthy relationships...**

*“He does not treat us as our sins deserve or repay us according to  
our iniquities. For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so  
great is his love for those who fear him; as far as the east is from the  
west, so far has he removed our transgressions from us.”*

**Psalm 103:10-12**

1. Accepting God’s unconditional love brings  
complete forgiveness from all my past.

*“Blessed are they whose transgressions are forgiven, whose sins are  
covered. Blessed is the man whose sins the Lord will never count  
against him.” Romans 4:7-8*

2. When I accept God’s forgiveness, I must forgive  
myself as well.

*“Then I acknowledged my sin to you and did not cover up my  
iniquity. I said, ‘I will confess my transgressions to the Lord’- and  
you forgave the guilt of my sin.” Psalm 32:5*

3. When I accept God’s forgiveness, I must extend  
forgiveness to those who have offended me.

*“and forgive us our sins, as we have forgiven those who sin against  
us.” Matthew 6:12*

Healthy relationships with God and with others  
are a growing process of learning and changing!

*“Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and  
humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke  
is easy and my burden is light.” Matthew 11:29-30*

*“But as for you, continue in what you have learned and have become  
convinced of, because you know those from whom you learned it,”  
2 Timothy 3:14*

*“Whatever you have learned or received or heard from me, or seen  
in me—put it into practice. And the God of peace will be with you.  
I rejoice greatly in the Lord that at last you have renewed your  
concern for me. Indeed, you have been concerned, but you had no  
opportunity to show it. I am not saying this because I am in need,  
for I have learned to be content whatever the circumstances. I know  
what it is to be in need, and I know what it is to have plenty. I have  
learned the secret of being content in any and every situation,  
whether well fed or hungry, whether living in plenty or in want. I  
can do everything through him who gives me strength.”  
Philippians 4:9-12*

*“and find out what pleases the Lord.” Ephesians 5:10*