

NEVER ALONE

Pastor George M. Dupree – 1/11/2009

In the Genesis account of creation after each thing that God creates we see this phrase **"And God saw that it was good"**

When God Finished All of His Creating

- Genesis 1:31 **God saw all that he had made, and it was very good.**

In chapter two of Genesis something was **not good**. There were a lot of animals but no other person.

- Genesis 2:18 It is **not good** for the man to be alone

Prior to Genesis 2:18 God had called everything he made good...the sun, the moon, the plants, the animals, everything...**"It was good."** Then he gets to this spot and he sees a person all alone and God says, **"This is NOT good."**

We weren't made to be alone. God isn't even alone...He lives as a three part being, **THE TRINITY - FATHER, SON & HOLY SPIRIT**

Being alone is not a good thing for anyone. God made us in His image, which means that we are made to have **RELATIONSHIP**

When they sinned; Adam and Eve hide from God out of fear of getting caught for disobeying God. Adam blames Eve for his **DISOBEDIENCE**, which drives a wedge of division into their relationship.

The Family Of God

All families have their issues and God's Family isn't any different. However, when we are in God's family, we have peace within because we know that we aren't all alone in the world. You have brothers and sisters who care, who will pray for you and lift you up.

God Is Always With Us

- Joshua 1:9 Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be terrified; do not be discouraged, **for the LORD your God will be with you wherever you go."**

If you follow Jesus...You're not alone, you are part of HIS FAMILY! Rick Warren says a Christian without a church is like an **ORPHAN**

The Bible is all about relationships - our vertical relationship with the Lord and our horizontal relationship with others.

THE GREAT COMMANDMENT emphasizes our love of God and our neighbor. (Matthew 22:37-39)

Loving relationships are a witness of His reality to a watching world

- John 13:35 "By this all men will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another."

Five conditions that are necessary for a growing friendship, both with the Lord and with other people:

1. Both people must be **WILLING** to get to know each other. You can know someone only to the extent that he or she is willing to be known. One-sided relationships are always a dead end.
2. Both people must **GROW** in a personal knowledge of each other, not just know about each other. We can have knowledge about God and not know God.
3. A growing relationship must have **OPENNESS**, acceptance and **FORGIVENESS**. People often put on a false front because they don't want others to know who they really are because they fear rejection. As we offer acceptance and forgiveness instead of **JUDGEMENT**; people feel safe to share their real self. God, who knows us best and loves us unconditionally says that we are accepted in the Beloved - Ephesians 1:6.
4. A fourth condition is time spent in **COMMUNICATION** - talking, listening and sharing thoughts and feelings. **PRAYER** is simply talking to God. We do that by praise, thanksgiving, requests, intercession for others, casting our cares upon Him and listening to His voice through His Word and His Spirit, through other people, circumstances, etc.
5. Fifth, a growing relationship is developed through **ACTION** - love must be demonstrated and expressed. Love not **DEMONSTRATED** is not love at all.
 - Romans 5:8" But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us."

The Emptiness Of Being Alone

- Ecclesiastes 4:7-12 "Again I saw **something meaningless** under the sun: **There was a man all alone**; Two are better than one, because they have a good return for their work: If one falls down, his friend can help him up. But pity the man who falls and has no one to help him up! Also, if two lie down together, they will keep warm. But how can one keep warm alone? Though one may be overpowered, two can defend themselves. A cord of three strands is not quickly broken."