

Be Careful How You Impose Your Expectations On Others

We must be very, very careful how we impose our expectations on others. It's something we do all the time because it's part of our efforts to control life's situations and circumstances. However, as we learn to operate in our kingship, we must assess everything from the perspective of: "Am I trying to dominate others in this situation as I control and administrate my domain".

If we aren't careful, we can impose our expectation on someone so that it becomes manipulation. Either that, or we can manipulate them so we can have our expectations realised. These are both wrong for sons to engage in, as it's an inappropriate use of our kingship. Remember, it's the enemy who works in manipulation and is controlling, not our beloved Trinity who we model ourselves on. We must guard against wanting to get our own way as it's a normal desire of our base nature¹ (our 'flesh') which the enemy likes to 'fiddle with'.

Our kingship must flow out of love (Trinitarian love, not our love) as an outflow of the love they pour into us. Living in their pool of love every moment of the day is essential if we're to be able to pour out their special love to others.

Now, there are situations and occasions when it is right to impose expectations on others. This occurs, for instance, when we're an employer or someone in management. The rules of employment in Western society revolve around a premise which most people are ignorant of: "*You are employed to be highly productive, always working at the standard set by management*". Anyone who is employed for the purposes of producing or supplying goods and services is bound by this unwritten premise. This is why any supervisor can expect their standards from workers and can enforce them.

In the Kingdom, expectations are put on us by the Trinity. These are ways of thinking, doing and speaking which are in line with them. It's as simple as that. They expect their sons to operate their way, but they know we constantly fail to come up to their standards because of our human frailties. That's where their love, grace and mercy moderate any recompense for failure, which is quite different to the workplace.

Also, in the Kingdom, we are permitted to rightly impose expectations on others when we're in a position of oversight or supervision. This is the case of fathers and their immediate families, parents and their children, elders and an ekklesia, and overseers and a Kingdom community. In each of these cases, and in every situation, we need to be very careful about what expectations we put on those we superintend. (I won't go into full detail here on that matter, I'll leave it for another teaching.)

For example: It is not right to put expectations on relatives, proportionate with those you'd put on your immediate family.

Care also needs to be taken in our response to expectations. The usual way is to react when the other person didn't meet our expectations. Simply put, that's pure selfishness in action. When we can't get our own way we get offended or disappointed, both of which are not Kingdom responses.

When someone doesn't come up to our expectation and a negative emotion develops in us, STOP. Then think, "What's the emotion or feeling?" and "Why am I responding this way – what's the root cause?" these questions come from a maxim that we follow to help us in our relationships. It states: If I get triggered by someone, then I have the problem. A negative response to our expectations of another person will be rooted in a problem inside us. That's baggage that needs 'chucking' out.

Responding emotionally to someone failing to meet our expectations is also wrong. When we operate emotionally, we don't think straight or clearly, because we lose clarity of what's essential in the situation. Along with that is the need to remain at rest (and relax) in the arena of relationships because rest quietens us internally and we can allow clarity to come from our mind and from the Spirit.

1 – "What is 'the Flesh'" canberraforerunners.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/10/More-About-The-Flesh.pdf

That's not an altogether unusual thing for me to state. It's a sonship understanding, like this one from our King:

“Silence your fear and emotional responses. You need to be quiet internally so that clarity can come with regard to the issues you face and the resulting changes that ensue. You are not hidden from my view. I see your unwavering spiritual commitment to serve Me, and I will give you instructions for the days ahead. You can rely on Me.”²

This article is a brief teaching to get us thinking about expectations – when they should be applied and how to respond when they aren't met. Not all areas or components of this topic have been covered here, so this content should be used as a starting point to allow Father to reprogram us to operate properly in the area of expectations. Knowing a little bit about expectational problems should open us up to allow him to clean us out in that area, if there's anything there that needs it, and there usually is.

Laurence

16-5-2021

(www.CanberraForerunners.org)

COPYRIGHT

This document is free to copy, republish and distribute, but only 'as is'. It is free to quote from at length.

All Canberra Forerunners' documents are licensed under

Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial-NoDerivs 3.0 Unported License

Quotes are the copyright of their authors.

Free graphics are from www.clker.com & free photos are from commons.wikimedia.org unless otherwise credited.

(Readers will need to look up for themselves any scriptures alluded to in this document)