How To Help People Who Are Hurting

Phil Robertson · Isaiah 9:6 · Series: **The Worthy Life -- Being a Light in a Dark World**

INTRODUCTION

- And so tonight, what I want us to consider together for just a few moments is how we as children of God counsel others.
- We're either A, in a crisis, B just getting out of a crisis, or C, heading to another crisis.
- He will be a wonderful counselor. And he'll be a mighty God, an everlasting father and a prince of peace.

1 Jesus Meets Them Where They Are

Luke 18

- I want us to consider and look at how Jesus counseled others.
- He doesn't treat the rich young ruler, though, like Zacchaeus. He meets them where they are.
- Sometimes the people in the worst crisis are the people who don't think they're in a crisis, but they are.

2 He Gets To Know Them

Luke 15:1

- The first thing Jesus does is he gets to know them.
- What's the very first thing he says to Zacchaeus? Get down. Why? Because I'm coming to your house.
- Are you here because you're seeking the Lord and you're seeking humility? Or are you seeking to pat yourself on the back?

3 He Listens and Asks Good Questions

- He listens to all of them. One of the greatest urges we all have when we're seeking to help somebody is that we want to talk.
- He listens to this woman, not to her words, but he listened to her reaction, to her humility, to her demeanor. And it was louder than words.
- If you're ever seeking to help somebody, this is so important. Ask good questions.

4 He Offers Hope

Hebrews 4:15

- The problem isn't so much what we may see as the problem as it is they are living a life without hope.
- He is one who can sympathize with our weaknesses. He can sympathize with our weaknesses. And yet he was tempted in every way, yet without sin.
- Be careful of allowing yourself to be placed on a precipice or a pinnacle. As if you were perfect.
- The hope you give people is grace. The hope you give people is God's mercy. The hope you give people is they're still greatly loved.
- Being an advisor, being a friend, being a mentor, being a counselor is not a one time only deal.

5 Become a Person Who Speaks With Grace

1 John 1; Colossians 4:6

- Your light shines bright because you put your confidence in the grace of God.
- We become those who speak with grace, and as the proverb reminds us, a soft answer turns away wrath.
- Even in the most wretched moral cases, be joyful that this person is talking with you.
- Grace is having the conversation. Having the conversation in a way that comes across as very loving and kind.

6 Seek to Encourage This Person

- You want to make sure that you seek to encourage this person.
- Our Lord found a way to help people become even more than they ever thought they could be.
- How can I help you help you? Because then there's ownership of it. And there's growth.

> THE CHALLENGE
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> **Do you realize the value of your life? Do you realize the purpose of your life? To be a light to this dark world.**

MY NOTES