

# cross fit

finding wholeness in a broken world

desert breeze  
community church



Saturday & Sunday, August 23/24, 2014 Ray Davis

## Sermon Notes

### “Maturity Checkpoints” 1Peter 3:8-12

No one wants you to “love life and see good days” as much as your Father in Heaven wants for you! It’s not so much about what you possess or the absence of problems but the attitude that you bring to life. And that attitude has a lot to do with your character, conduct & convictions (spiritual maturity).

#### The Family That Dad Wants:

**CHARACTER:** v8 (Phil2:1-5) (Who we are)

- ✓ Unity of Mind = agree on the essentials (Harmonious)
- ✓ Sympathy = to share common feelings (Rom12:15)
- ✓ Brotherly Love = love as brothers or sisters
- ✓ Tender Heart = Gentle, kind & thoughtful
- ✓ Humble Mind = accurate view of oneself

**CONDUCT:** vv9-11 (What we do)

- ✓ Forgiveness – is letting go of the hatred & revenge & extending grace. It has to do with the past and it only takes one to forgive. V9 Do not repay evil for evil...on the contrary bless... (Eph4:32)
- ✓ Trust – what will you risk happening again and open yourself up to? It has to do with the future and it takes time plus performance to reestablish trustworthiness. V10 let him keep...his lips from speaking deceit (Eph4:25; Pro12:18, 18:21; Matt12:34)
- ✓ Reconciliation – mutual apology and forgiveness. It has to do with the present and it takes two to reconcile. V11 let him seek peace and pursue it. (Rom12:18)

**CONVICTIONS:** V12 (Ps34) (What we believe)

- ✓ God is watching over me 12a “for the eyes of the Lord are on the righteous”
- ✓ God is listening to me 12b “His ears are open to their prayer”
- ✓ God will deal with trouble makers 12c “but the face of the Lord is against those who do evil.”

That God knows, and cares, and rules, is enough!

## Growing Notes

1) What kind of advice would you give to someone who wants to “love life and see good days” (1Pet3:10)? Why do you think it’s not so much about what we possess or the absence of problems but the attitude that we bring to life? How much does spiritual maturity play in our attitude about life?

2) Read 1Peter 3:8-12. This is the end of the current discussion which started in chapter 2 verse 11. He is summing up how to live the gospel in a fallen world. What stands out to you from this text? Review the 5 traits of Character. How do these relate to Phil2:1-5? What would it be like to hang out (Life Group) with people like this?

3) What is the relationship between our character and our conduct? Review the 3 traits of conduct. Why do you think this kind of character (v8) would produce this kind of conduct (vv9-11 forgiveness, trust & reconciliation)? Is it possible to forgive and not trust and/or reconcile with someone? How are these 3 traits a necessity for developing conflict resolution skills?

4) Why do you think that our Character (who we are) and Conduct (what we do) flows out of our Convictions (what we believe)? What are the personal implications of the fact that God is watching over you, listening to you & will deal with trouble makers (v12)? How would living in the reality of these truths (v12) produce this kind of character (v8) and conduct (vv9-11)? Nothing worse than relational conflict and the wounds it can cause. How did this study help you to deal with relational baggage so that you can “love life and see good days?” Pray 1Peter3:8-12 for db!