

Car Dealer Relationships

Romans 12:9 Let love be without dissimulation. Abhor that which is evil; cleave to that which is good.

The Greek word for dissimulation is sincere. Let love be sincere.

How many of us have car dealer relationships?

You walk into a car dealership and you are not even out of your car when someone comes running out to greet you. They make you feel so welcomed, they make you feel important. They make you feel wanted. They will do whatever they can to gain your trust and your business.

When you finally make the decision to purchase and you sign your name on the purchase agreement, you sense the relationship start to change. When you take possession of the vehicle and ask if it comes with car mats, you get laughed at and told, "Oh no, those are extra." When it comes time to take the car in for service and the repair is costly and you say, "I thought this was supposed to be covered by my warranty?" Only to be told, "Oh no, this is a wear item, and wear items are not covered under the warranty."

You think, "Why didn't they tell me this when I came in the first time." When your salesman looks at you after a year with a puzzling look on his face like, do I know you, when you come in for an oil change. You finally realize you have been had.

How many couples have car dealer marriages? They say the right things while they are dating. They make all kinds of commitments during courtship, only to forget them after they say I do. I have a book in my office that I make mention of often, "Dated Jekyll, Married Hyde" Dating was/is supposed to be fun. Courtship was/is supposed to be exciting. However, the fun and excitement isn't supposed to end after marriage. You can't just say I do and then do nothing else. You have got to continue working on your marriage, if you want it strong and thriving.

How many people have a car dealer relationship with God? It's not God who changes, you and I are still important to Him. We never neglect being the apple of his eye.

Deu. 32:10

10 He found him in a desert land, and in the waste howling wilderness; he led him about, he instructed him, he kept him as the apple of his eye.

I don't ever want to forget where Jesus found me, I may have been born and raised in Chicago, but Jesus found me in a desert land. I was found in the waste howling wilderness. He put forth His best for me. He has never stopped putting forth His best for me.

Psa. 17:6-8

6 I have called upon thee, for thou wilt hear me, O God: incline thine ear unto me, and hear my speech.

7 Shew thy marvellous lovingkindness, O thou that savest by thy right hand them which put their trust in thee from those that rise up against them.

8 Keep me as the apple of the eye, hide me under the shadow of thy wings,

The entire 17th Psalm can really be quoted. What a prayer David made to His God. You can literally feel the passion of his prayer when he cries out, "keep me as the apple of the eye" It reminds me of when Moses cried out, "I beseech thee, shew me your glory."

Pro. 7:2

2 Keep my commandments, and live; and my law as the apple of thine eye.

I wish David would have always kept the laws of God as the apple of his eye. How many saints of old started their relationship with Him, saying the right things, and doing the right things only to allow the great "eroder" called time, eat into their relationship with God.

As a Pastor, I wish I could do a better job keeping it before the saints of God that we need to always remember that He brought us out of the waste howling wilderness, to a land that really does flow with milk and honey.

How many saints of old used to sing, "His eye is on the sparrow, and I know, He watches over me." They never wanted God's eye off their lives or their homes. They longed for God to keep them the apple of His eye—only to allow time and poor choices to make them want Him to stop looking on them and where they are living.

How many "revival" churches are hoping God is no longer watching their lifestyles? Hoping God is no longer watching their commitments to evangelism. Hoping God is no longer watching their commitments to holiness.

Ecc. 12:1

1 Remember now thy Creator in the days of thy youth, while the evil days come not, nor the years draw nigh, when thou shalt say, I have no pleasure in them;

How do we remember our creator from the days of our conversion? How do the saints of God remember their creator from the days of their conversion? How sincere is our love to God, how sincere is our devotion to God?