



THE LIFE OF TIMOTHY

NEILL GIBSON

5A

YOUR GARDEN – THE PLANTING OF THE LORD

SESSION 5A

“Read Genesis 1 and 2.”

-God

GENESIS 1 – OVERVIEW

- Purposeful creation of all things with man and woman as the pinnacle of creation.
- “Created” and “made”
- Broad-brush commission and blessing: “Rule”



GENESIS 2 – CONTEXT

- All things brought into the context of man, in a more intimate setting
- “Planted”, “formed”, “breathed into”
- Places in this context without direct explanation



THE GARDEN OF THE LORD

- “The LORD God planted a garden ... and there He placed the man whom He had formed.” (Gen 2:8)
- He created it all and planted it Himself, now He places a steward over all He has made, and specifically in this garden.
- So as we look at what is in “our garden”, we mean the garden He has given to us to tend -- it all belongs to Him.

THE MASTER INVESTS IN US

- These parables depict Jesus' 1st and 2nd comings. He has invested in us greatly as a test for future Kingdom responsibility. (Matt 25, Luke 19)
- We steward according to our knowledge of God:
 - Is He entrusting us with much and hoping to reward?
 - Or is He looking to take from us and be harsh?

HIS SPIRITUAL INVESTMENT

- "Gifts ... ministries / services ... effects: But to each one is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good."
- "...The same Spirit works all these things, distributing to each one individually just as He wills"
- "But now God has placed the members, each one of them, in the body, just as He desired"

WHY LOOK AT YOUR GARDEN?

- The purpose of looking at our lives through this lens is to help us to be faithful by intentional living
- It requires prayer and reflection, but it yields the peace of a life of faithfulness before God and a future of great reward: He who is faithful with the little [of this life] will be ruler over much [in the next]
- Possession of great gifts and treasure does not guarantee the Master's "Well done, good and faithful servant" -- good stewardship does

THE BIG PICTURE

- Be fruitful, multiply, fill, subdue, rule
- Proclaim the Good News, disciple the nations
- Fullness of the Gentiles, move Israel to jealousy
- Fill the earth with His glory



THE LITTLE PICTURE

- Cultivate, keep, tend
- Be faithful, steward what He entrusts to you
- Every member in the Body of Christ mature, functioning in their role for the common good
- Christ in you, the hope of glory



WHAT'S IN YOUR GARDEN?



WHAT'S IN YOUR GARDEN?



LOOK AROUND YOU

WHAT'S IN YOUR GARDEN?

Relationships

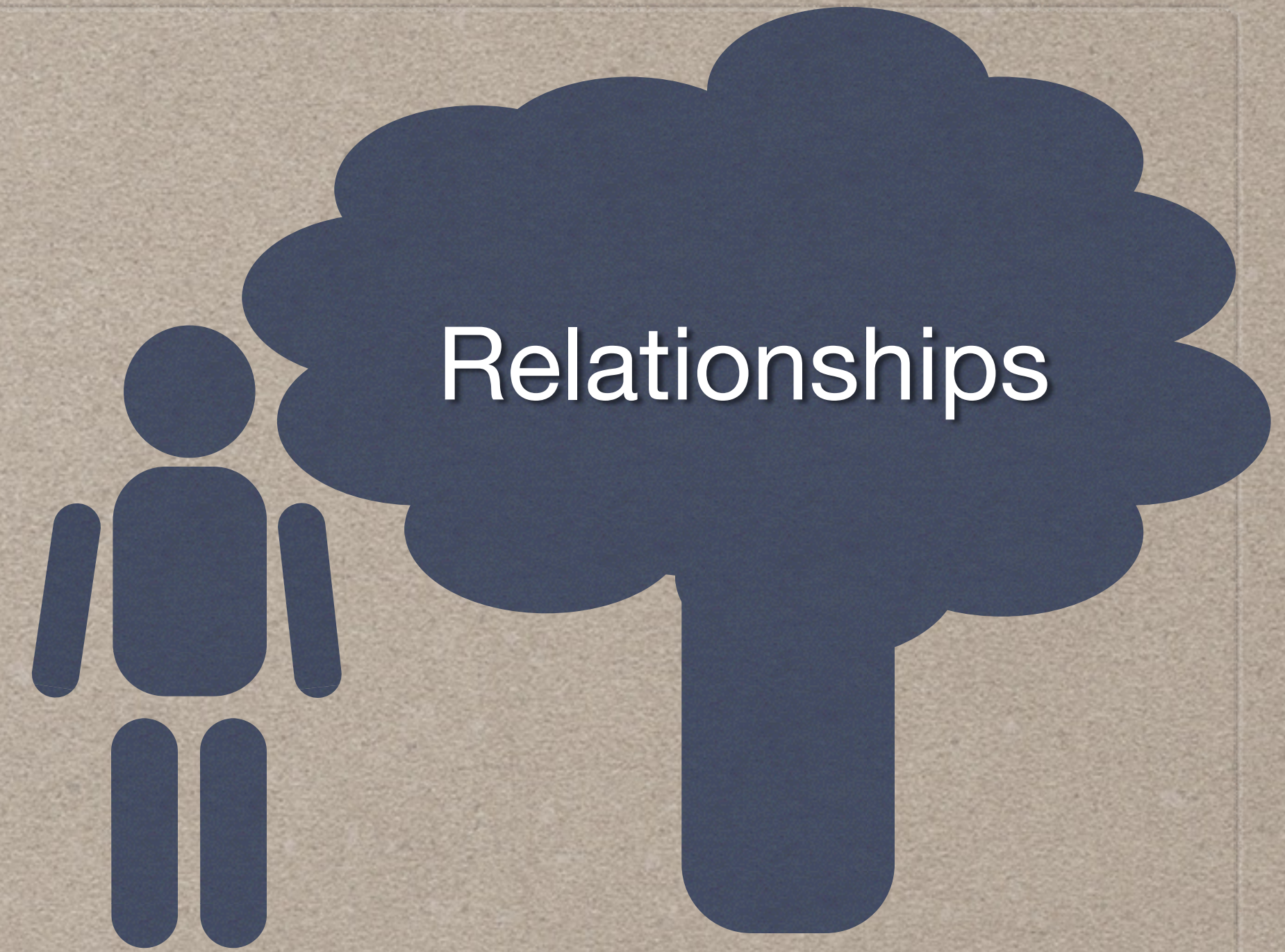
Resources

Responsibilities

LOOK TO THE LORD

RELATIONSHIPS

- Jesus
- Family
- Friends, co-workers, neighbors, etc.
- Those that you are learning from
- Those that you are influencing



THE CALL OF JESUS GOES BEYOND FAMILY RELATIONSHIPS

- "He who loves father or mother more than Me is not worthy of Me; and he who loves son or daughter more than Me is not worthy of Me."
- "Who is my mother and who are my brothers?"
- "If anyone does not hate..."
- "Anyone who has left _____ for the sake of the Kingdom of God..."

FAITHFULNESS IN FAMILY GOES BEFORE MINISTRY IN CHURCH

- Honoring father and mother greater than extra acts of devotion to God
- Requirements for elders in the church are faithfulness in:
 - Personal life
 - Marriage
 - Family / household

RESOURCES

- Spiritual or natural gifts, aptitudes, abilities
- Deposit in your life from the Lord (Spirit / Word)
- Material possessions, finances, connections
- Your body and health



RESPONSIBILITIES

- Burdens, words, and revelations from the Lord
- Your calling, vocation
- Biblical mandates, like the Great Commission
- Things you know specifically God has spoken or delegated to you



SO, WHAT'S IN YOUR GARDEN?

- Recognize the trees in your life
- Recognize the activity of God in your life
- Be a faithful steward

YOUR GARDEN – THE PLANTING OF THE LORD

SESSION 5A



THE LIFE OF TIMOTHY

NEILL GIBSON

5A