

“Friends Let It Go”
GOT FRIENDS P5
Jeff Wall 3-8-09

VDP’s – Very Draining People.

***Difficult people *Demanding people *Disappointing people *Destructive people**
How do you respond in love to each of these groups of people?

“Love is not rude. Love does not demand its own way. Love is not irritable, and loves keeps no record of when it has been wronged.” 1 Cor. 13:5 (NLT)

4 MARKS OF FRIENDSHIP

LOVE IS NOT RUDE. So...

1. I must be tactful, not just truthful

“Answering before listening is both stupid and rude.” Prov. 18:13 (MSG)

“Stop being bitter and angry and mad at others. Don't yell at one another or curse each other or ever be rude. Instead, be kind and merciful, and forgive others, just as God forgave you because of Christ.” Eph. 4:31-32 (CEV)

Eric Hoffer said, “Rudeness is a weak man’s imitation of strength.”

“A wise, mature person is known for his understanding. The more pleasant his words, the more persuasive he is.” Prov. 16:21 (TEV)

Telling it like it is - is not the best way to communicate.

LOVE DOES NOT DEMAND ITS OWN WAY. So...

2. I must be understanding, not demanding.

“Your attitude should be the same that Christ Jesus had. Though he was God, he did not demand and cling to his rights as God. He made himself nothing; he took the humble position of a slave and appeared in human form.” Phil. 2:5-7 (NLT)

“Believers shouldn't curse anyone or be quarrelsome, but they should be gentle and show courtesy to everyone.” Titus 3:2 (GW)

“Do to others as you would have them do to you.” Luke 6:31 (NIV)

Be tender without surrender.

LOVE IS NOT IRRITABLE. So...

3. I must be gentle not judgmental.

“Brothers and sisters, if someone in your group does something wrong, you who are spiritual should go to that person and gently help make him right again. But be careful, because you might be tempted to sin, too.” Gal. 6:1 (NCV)

Right + Rude = Wrong

“Each of us will give an account of himself to God. Therefore, let us stop passing judgment on each other.” Rom. 14:12-13 (NIV)

“Gentle words bring life and health; a deceitful tongue crushes the spirit.” Prov. 15:4 (NLT)

“If your boss is angry with you, don't quit! A quiet spirit can overcome even great mistakes.” Eccl. 10:4 (NLT)

LOVE KEEPS NO RECORD OF WRONGS. So ...

4. I don't repeat it, you delete it.

“Whenever you stand praying, if you have anything against anyone, forgive him and let it drop, leave it, and let it go, in order that your Father who is in heaven may also forgive you your own failings and shortcomings and let them drop.” Mark 11:25 (Amp)

FRIENDS GOSIP BAN- *“I'm not going to listen to it, I'm not going to share it. When somebody starts gossiping say, “Sorry I'm not going to be a part of that.”*

One of the greatest tests of your love is how much you gossip.
Unloving people love to gossip.

“Hate stirs up trouble, but love forgives all offenses.” Prov. 10:12 (TEV)

“When someone wrongs you, it is a great virtue to ignore it.” Prov. 19:11 (TEV)

“You are only hurting yourself with your anger.” Job 18:4 (TEV)

Memory verse for this week *“Love doesn't keep a record of wrongs.” 1Cor.13:5*

I don't know who you need to forgive but I do know today's the day. As we close I want you to think of the people who've hurt you in your life and I want you to let them off the hook.

