



The Elusive Relationship: Panel Discussion

DATE: Oct. 17, 2018

SPEAKERS: Ben Fuqua, Amy Foster, Matt Lantz

Use the following as a starting point for conversation:

1. Matt Lantz shared that he realized dating was all about performing and trying to be the person he thought someone else would want. Have you noticed that tendency in yourself in any of your relationships (dating or otherwise)? What's the antidote to that?
2. Amy said, "God used relationships to create an emptiness in me that drove me to Him." She also shared that His healing requires time and deliberate, disciplined effort on our part to seek Him. Have you felt that emptiness in your heart? Has it drawn you to Him or have you tried to fill it in other ways? What steps do you want to take to put in deliberate, disciplined effort to seek Him? Read Jeremiah 29:13 for encouragement.
3. They talked about the idea of guarding your heart. Are you able to do that? Do you struggle to not let your heart get ahead of your brain and/or your circumstances? How can you grow in that?
4. Matt said, "If you don't know what your identity is, dating will destroy you." And Amy said, "Your identity doesn't change if someone accepts or rejects you. You have a Creator who gave you your identity." Do you find yourself putting your identity and value in what someone else thinks of you, rather than in what God has said is true about you? What steps can you take to grow in understanding your identity in Christ?
5. Amy said, "There's a fine line between extending grace and forgiving someone versus enabling them to continue in their sin." And Matt pointed out that "confronting sin is an act of grace." In any of your relationships, do you have trouble finding that line? Is it hard to confront sin with someone? How can you grow in that? And how can you grow in being someone who can be confronted with your sin?



HOME GROUP QUESTIONS

6. If you find yourself feeling like you don't deserve a good relationship because you're already too broken or you've messed up too much, what truth did the panel share to speak into that? What would you say to someone who's feeling that way?

7. What are the biggest things you're taking away from this series? How has the Lord challenged you to respond and what are you going to do about it?