

7. Being Included → Sense Of Intimacy → I Want To Be With You

Romans 12:16, NIV – Live in harmony with one another. Do not be proud, but be willing to associate with people of low position.

Romans 15:7, NIV – Accept one another, then, just as Christ accepted you, in order to bring praise to God.

Ephesians 4:32, NIV – Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you.

TWO CAUTIONS IN FILLING OTHERS' NEEDS

Proverbs 16:2, NIV – All a man's ways seem innocent to him, but motives are weighed by the LORD.

1. Serve Without Qualification (Don't Be Selective)

Philippians 4:17, NIV – Not that I am looking for a gift, but I am looking for what may be credited to your account.

Luke 6:32-34, NIV – (32) If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? Even sinners love those who love them. (33) And if you do good to those who are good to you, what credit is that to you? Even sinners do that. (34) And if you lend to those from whom you expect repayment, what credit is that to you

2. Serve Without Strings Attached (Don't Demand A Return)

Luke 6:35, NIV – (35) But love your enemies, do good to them, and lend to them without expecting to get anything back. Then your reward will be great. ...

TWO REQUIREMENTS FOR HAVING OUR NEEDS MET

Philippians 4:19, NIV – And my God will meet all your needs according to his glorious riches in Christ Jesus.

1. Focus On The Needs Of Others

Ephesians 6:7-8, NIV – (7) Serve wholeheartedly, as if you were serving the Lord, not men, (8) because you know that the Lord will reward everyone for whatever good he does, whether he is slave or free.

2. Commit To Community

Ecclesiastes 4:9, NIV – (9) Two are better than one, because they have a good return for their work: (10) If one falls down, his friend can help him up. But pity the man who falls and has no one to help him up!

RELATIONSHIPS THAT BLESS

4 – Filling Each Other's Hearts

David Hibbert – May 28, 2006

REVIEW

We have been created by God, with 7 emotional needs. Our hearts respond to these 7 needs, by birthing within us, 7 corresponding heart desires, that motivate us to try to fill these 7 emotional needs.

1. These 7 emotional needs were created by God
2. Our heart desires are our internal drives to have our needs met
3. When we try to fill these needs our own way, we cause damage
4. Jesus had these 7 needs filled in His relationship with the Father
5. The Father wants to fill these needs in us, through intimacy with Him
6. God has invited us to be his partners, in filling the needs of others

WE MUST CHANGE OUR NEED FOCUS

1. Focus On Others, Not On Yourself

Isaiah 58:6-12, NIV – (10) If you spend yourselves in behalf of the hungry and satisfy the needs of the oppressed, then your light will rise in the darkness, and your night will become like the noonday. (11) The LORD will guide you always; he will satisfy your needs in a sun-scorched land and will strengthen your frame. You will be like a well-watered garden, like a spring whose waters never fail.

Selfishness is not just a little character flaw – it is a pervasive, life-draining lie that will keep you unhappy, unproductive, and unfruitful

2. We Were Created – And Redeemed – To Serve Others

Ephesians 4:29, NIV – Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths, but only what is helpful for building others up according to their needs, that it may benefit those who listen.

1 Peter 4:10, NIV – Each one should use whatever gift he has received to serve others, faithfully administering God's grace in its various forms."

2 Corinthians 5:15, NIV – And he died for all, that those who live should no longer live for themselves ...

3. How Will My Needs Be Filled?

Philippians 4:19, NIV – And my God will meet all your needs according to his glorious riches in Christ Jesus.

Colossians 1:27, NIV – *To them God has chosen to make known among the Gentiles the glorious riches of this mystery, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory.*

- a) Christ In Us, Will Fill Our Needs – Ephesians 3:16, NIV – ... *Out of his glorious riches he may strengthen you ... through his Spirit in your inner being.*
- b) Christ In Others, Will Fill Our Needs – 1 Peter 4:10, NIV – *Each one should use whatever gift he has received to serve others, faithfully administering God's grace in its various forms.*

4. Two Wonderful Consequences Of Filling Other's Needs First

- a) We Reap **What** We Sow – 2 Corinthians 9:6, NIV – *Remember this: Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously.*
- b) In Serving Others, We Reap **As** We Sow – Proverbs 11:25, NIV – *“A generous man will prosper; he who refreshes others will himself be refreshed.” (See KJV)*

FILLING OTHER'S SEVEN HEART DESIRES

1. Being Heard and Understood → Sense Of Significance → I Hear What You Are Saying

James 1:19, NIV – *Be quick to listen, slow to speak and slow to become angry.*

1 Peter 3:8, NIV – *Finally, all of you, live in harmony with one another; be sympathetic, love as brothers, be compassionate and humble.*

Ecclesiastes 7:21, NIV – *Do not pay attention to every word people say, or you may hear your servant cursing you.*

2. Being Affirmed → Sense Of Ability And Power → You Can Do It

Romans 12:10, NIV – *Be devoted to one another in brotherly love. Honor one another above yourselves.*

1 Thessalonians 5:11, NIV – *Therefore encourage one another and build each other up ...*

Hebrews 3:13, NIV – *But encourage one another daily, as long as it is called Today, so that none of you may be hardened by sin's deceitfulness.*

Hebrews 10:24, NIV – *And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds.*

2 Corinthians 7:16, NIV – *I can have complete confidence in you.*

3. Being Blessed → Sense Of Provision → I Believe In You ... I'm Behind You

Romans 15:14, NIV – *I myself am convinced, my brothers, that you yourselves are full of goodness, complete in knowledge and competent to instruct one another.*

Galatians 5:13, NIV – *But do not use your freedom to indulge the sinful nature; rather, serve one another in love.*

2 Corinthians 9:8, NIV – *And God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work.*

4. Being Safe → Sense Of Security → I'll Protect You

Romans 14:13, NIV – *Therefore let us stop passing judgment on one another. Instead, make up your mind not to put any stumbling block or obstacle in your brother's way.*

1 Corinthians 12:25, NIV – *So that there should be no division in the body, but that its parts should have equal concern for each other.*

Ecclesiastes 4:9-12, NIV – *(10) If one falls down, his friend can help him up. ... (11) Also, if two lie down together, they will keep warm. ... (12) Though one may be overpowered, two can defend themselves.*

5. Being Desired → Sense Of Purpose → I Need You

1 Corinthians 11:33, NIV – *When you come together to eat, wait for each other.*

1 Corinthians 12:21, NIV – *The eye cannot say to the hand, 'I don't need you!' And the head cannot say to the feet, 'I don't need you!'*

Ephesians 6:19, NIV – *Pray also for me ...*

6. Being Affectionately Touched → Sense Of Freedom → You Can Be Yourself With Me

Romans 16:16, NIV – *Greet one another with a holy kiss. (1 Corinthians 16:20; 2 Corinthians 13:12)*

Ephesians 4:2, NIV – *Be completely humble and gentle; be patient, bearing with one another in love.*

1 Peter 4:8, NIV – *Above all, love each other deeply, because love covers over a multitude of sins.*