

Emotionally Healthy Relationships

Part 5-Listening Incarnationally

John 1:1-3, 14, Philippians 2:5-9

Jesus stepped into our world...

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ² He was with God in the beginning. ³ Through Him all things were made; without Him nothing was made that has been made...The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen His glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth. John 1:1-3, 14 NIV

Jesus serves as a beautiful model for listening...

1. Jesus LEFT His world.

In your relationships with one another, have the same mindset as Christ Jesus: Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be used to his own advantage... Philippians 2:5-6 NIV

2. Jesus ENTERED our world.

...rather, He made Himself nothing by taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness. Philippians 2:7 NIV

3. Jesus HELD ON to Himself.

And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled himself... Philippians 2:8a NIV

4. Jesus hung between TWO WORLDS.

...by becoming obedient to death—even death on a cross! Philippians 2:8b NIV

Consider the response of Jesus to the death of Lazarus...

When Mary arrived and saw Jesus, she fell at His feet and said, “Lord, if only you had been here, my brother would not have died.” When Jesus saw her weeping and saw the other people wailing with her, a deep anger welled up within Him, and He was deeply troubled. “Where have you put him?” He asked them. They told him, “Lord, come and see.” Then Jesus wept. The people who were standing nearby said, “See how much He loved him!” ... Jesus responded, “Didn’t I tell you that you would see God’s glory if you believe? John 11:32-35, 40 NIV

What adjustments do you need to make in your life to step into the world of another and truly listen?