

“REAL LOVE IS SECURE”

ARE YOU SECURE?

- Real love is not jealous, boastful, proud or rude and does not demand its own way (1Cor. 13: 4b-5a).
- You must be secure in who God says you are.
 - All of the above descriptions of love require a secure person.
 - You must first be secure in God’s love before you can **consistently** act loving.
 - Insecurities, our fears, cause us to act in unloving ways.
 - To be a loving person you must be transformed by God’s love!
 - You must be able draw and receive love from God.
 - Jealousy, boasting, pride, rudeness and insisting on our own way are simply strongholds that hide our fears.

THE STRONGHOLD OF JEALOUSY:

- Jealousy – being envious of others and wanting what they have.
 - Anytime we want (covet) what others have or want their life instead of ours, we are being infected with the jealousy virus.
 - Jealousy leads to anger, frustration, resentment, hating others, and hating yourself. It deprives you of being content, entices you to always compare yourself with others, sets you up to feel deprived, fills you with envy and can lead to violent behavior.
- The cure for jealousy ... contentment.
 - Being content with who God has made you.
 - Being content with what you have (1Tim. 6:6-8).

THE STRONGHOLD OF PRIDE:

- Pride, boasting, rudeness – Thinking you are better and more important than others and drawing attention to yourself.

- Pride leads to putting others down, judging others, and thinking you are always right. It makes you uncorrectable, inflexible, always right, and independent. You can become impossible to work with and/or live with. God will oppose you!
- The cure for pride ... humility.
 - Consider others better than yourself and look out for their interests (Phil. 2:3-4).
 - Serve each other (Mt. 20:25-28).

THE STRONGHOLD OF DEMANDING YOUR OWN WAY:

- This behavior can take many forms; manipulation, withholding love, refusing to communicate, berating, intimidation, threatening, stubbornness, and issuing ultimatums.
 - You may get your way, but your relationship will pay the price.
- The cure for demanding your own way ... submission.
 - Submit to God (Heb. 5:7; Ja. 4:7).
 - Are you seeking God's way or your own way?
 - Submit to one another (Eph. 5:21).
 - Give value to others' ideas thoughts and opinions.

REAL LOVE IS SECURE:

- Real love admits and faces the fears in your life.
- Real love takes responsibility for my unloving behavior.
- Real love is secure enough to say "I'm sorry."
- Real love is secure ... secure enough in God's love to love others.