

Building Great Relationships
Bringing Out the Best in Others

I. Introduction

A. I Corinthians 13:4b (NAS) *"Love is kind."*

1. Kindness is love in action.
2. We build people up (edify) by kindness, not criticism.

II. How to Bring Out the Best in Others

A. Give them a personal challenge.

1. Ephesians 4:1 (NAS) *I, therefore, the prisoner of the Lord, entreat you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling with which you have been called.*
2. Intuitively, everybody knows that there's more to life than just living for self.
3. All of us need somebody in our lives to inspire us to be what we could be!

B. Instill confidence in them.

1. When somebody believes in you, it brings out the best in you!
2. Matthew 16:18 (NAS) *"And I also say to you that you are Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades shall not overpower it."*
3. I Thessalonians 5:11a (NAS) *Therefore, encourage one another and build up one another.*
4. "Catch people doing something right and then tell them." (Ken Blanchard)
5. Suggestions on encouraging others:
 - a. It needs to be sincere (genuine).
 - b. It needs to be regular.
 - c. It needs to be specific.

C. Give them honest feedback.

1. Proverbs 24:26 (NAS) *He kisses the lips who gives a right (honest) answer.*

2. A real friend will tell you when you're about to make a mistake.
 - a. Proverbs 27:6a (NAS) *Faithful are the wounds of a friend.*
3. Correction done the right way builds people up. Correction done the wrong way can scar a person for life!
4. The key in bringing correction is your attitude.
 - a. The purpose has to be to correct, not condemn.
 - b. Ask yourself, "What is my motive in this? Am I correcting them for my benefit or for theirs?"
5. Ephesians 4:15a (NAS) *But speaking the truth in love.*
 - a. Affirm the person; correct the behavior.
- D. Praise the growth and changes you see in their lives.
 1. Matthew 16:17 (NAS) *"Blessed are you, Simon Barjona, because flesh and blood did not reveal this to you, but my Father who is in heaven."*
- E. Realize there's always a price tag to being a people builder.
 1. The biggest cost is unselfishness.

III. How to Start Being a People Builder

- A. Make a decision to start trying.
- B. Pray and ask God who is in your life that He wants you to build up.
- C. Pray and ask God how to do it.
- D. Then, go do it!

IV. Conclusion