



CLIMATE CHANGE, Part 1: The Forecast

INTRODUCTION

You have an emotional climate. It goes with you everywhere. You can't see it. But it's a big deal. Research shows that the number one obstacle people face in their relationships and careers is an inability to understand the emotional climate of the people around them and to recognize their own emotional climate.

We've all been around people like that. What if you are that person?

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Talk about someone you enjoy being around. What do you like about that person?
2. Why do our relationships feel less urgent than our jobs and other responsibilities? What can you do to prioritize relationships?
3. What could you lose by ignoring the climate of the relationships in your life?
4. Read Genesis 4:8-9. What does it mean to be "your brother's keeper"?
5. Which of your relationships needs a climate change—marriage, kids, friends, coworkers, boss? What do you need to do to begin to change the climate?

MOVING FORWARD

This week, ask three people one question: "What's it like to be on the other side of me?"

Sit down with a notepad and listen to their responses. Don't interrupt, apologize, rationalize, or defend. You'll hear things that will encourage and surprise you. You'll hear things that will hurt your feelings.

You can dismiss what you hear or take it to your heavenly Father in prayer and ask for help.

CHANGING YOUR MIND

A person's days are determined; you have decreed the number of his months and have set limits he cannot exceed.

Job 14:5