

WELCOME

Our Mission is to . . .

- Connect you to Jesus
- Connect you to His community for discipleship
- Connect you to your mission and purpose in life

We are not here to tell you what to wear, eat, listen to, vote for, or even believe. These are things you must determine for yourself if you want to have real faith. We are here to give you truth, facts, tools and point out that every choice, every belief, and every action you make is tied to an outcome in your life. You can't do life without developing a strong foundation and becoming a person of substance. This is your journey, your discovery, and you will reap the benefit of the work you do.

FHNew - Our mission as a church is to do everything we can to help you grow your faith. If you would like to get to know us a little better or begin or continue your journey of faith, speak to an elder or staff member or **contact Foothills** at **208-853-0011** and we will send you a link to a few short videos about Foothills Church. Or for more information, stop by the **Connection booth in the Atrium**.

PRAYER REQUESTS: Fill out a **Connect card** using the QR code on the screen or the actual card on the seat back in front of you. Place your prayer request in the ORANGE offering box in the back of the Sanctuary. You can also send a prayer request using this form: [Prayer Request - Foothills Church](#). The staff and volunteers pray over these weekly.

FHBaptism - One important step in your faith journey is being baptized. To learn more about baptism, speak to an elder or staff member or **contact Foothills** at **208-853-0011** and we will send you the teaching on Believers' Baptism.

ONGOING/UPCOMING

- MomCo - [Foothills MomCo - Foothills Church \(churchcenter.com\)](#)
- Small Groups - [Foothills Church \(churchcenter.com\)](#)
- Bible Recap: Read through the Bible in a Year ([Linda Kraft - The Bible Recap - Foothills Church](#)) Join any time . . .
- Vacation Bible School – June 23-26
 - [Volunteer Registration](#)
 - [Child Registration](#)
- [Small Group Leaders' Training & Lunch](#) – May 18, 12:30-1:30, Chapel
- KidMin Volunteers needed – Contact Pastor Steve Botsford at steve@foothills.org

FIGHTING WITH FAMILY Series - FRENEMIES OF THE FAMILY - Interim Pastor Trent Renner**INTRODUCTION**

Today in the US is “National No Dirty Dishes Day.” As we are now in the middle of our “Fighting w/ Family” series, I want to talk about Every Family’s Reality that the good things they enjoy and have in life can also become enemies.

Today’s message is “Family Frenemies” I won’t be shouting from the stage that social media is evil, TVs, the local bar, your mobile phone, you can’t drink, smoke or chew...or go out with girls who do!
Those dogmatic statements are ungodly.

Romans 14 (NLT)

Accept other believers who are weak in faith, and don’t argue with them about what they think is right or wrong. 2For instance, one person believes it’s all right to eat anything. But another believer with a sensitive conscience will eat only vegetables. 3Those who feel free to eat anything must not look down on those who don’t. And those who don’t eat certain foods must not condemn those who do, for God has accepted them. 4Who are you to condemn someone else’s servants? Their own master will judge whether they stand or fall. And with the Lord’s help, they will stand and receive his approval.

5In the same way, some think one day is more holy than another day, while others think every day is alike. You should each be fully convinced that whichever day you choose is acceptable. 6Those who worship the Lord on a special day do it to honor him. Those who eat any kind of food do so to honor the Lord, since they give thanks to God before eating. And those who refuse to eat certain foods also want to please the Lord and give thanks to God. 7For we don’t live for ourselves or die for ourselves. 8If we live, it’s to honor the Lord. And if we die, it’s to honor the Lord. So whether we live or die, we belong to the Lord. 9Christ died and rose again for this very purpose—to be Lord both of the living and of the dead.

10So why do you condemn another believer? Why do you look down on another believer? Remember, we will all stand before the judgment seat of God. 11For the Scriptures say,

“As surely as I live,” says the Lord, “every knee will bend to me, and every tongue will declare allegiance to God.”

12Yes, each of us will give a personal account to God. 13So let’s stop condemning each other. Decide instead to live in such a way that you will not cause another believer to stumble and fall.

14I know and am convinced on the authority of the Lord Jesus that no food, in and of itself, is wrong to eat. But if someone believes it is wrong, then for that person it is wrong. 15And if another believer is distressed by what you eat, you are not acting in love if you eat it. Don’t let your eating ruin someone for whom Christ died. 16Then you will not be criticized for doing something you believe is good. 17For the Kingdom of God is not a matter of what we eat or drink, but of living a life of goodness and peace and joy in the Holy Spirit. 18If you serve Christ with this attitude, you will please God, and others will approve of you, too. 19So then, let us aim for harmony in the church and try to build each other up.

20 Don't tear apart the work of God over what you eat. Remember, all foods are acceptable, but it is wrong to eat something if it makes another person stumble. 21 It is better not to eat meat or drink wine or do anything else if it might cause another believer to stumble. 22 You may believe there's nothing wrong with what you are doing, but keep it between yourself and God. Blessed are those who don't feel guilty for doing something they have decided is right. 23 But if you have doubts about whether or not you should eat something, you are sinning if you go ahead and do it. For you are not following your convictions. If you do anything you believe is not right, you are sinning.

Today's message is not about THINGS that can cause you sin (Sex-Money-Power). Those are just THINGS. They are not sinful in themselves. It is about **YOUR HEART** and **YOUR MIND**.

- What do you focus on?
- What in your life controls your heart and mind?

The Rich Young Ruler (Mark 10:17-22)

As Jesus was starting out on his way to Jerusalem, a man came running up to him, knelt down, and asked, "Good Teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?" 18 "Why do you call me good?" Jesus asked. "Only God is truly good. 19 But to answer your question, you know the commandments: 'You must not murder. You must not commit adultery. You must not steal. You must not testify falsely. You must not cheat anyone. Honor your father and mother.'"

20 "Teacher," the man replied, "I've obeyed all these commandments since I was young."

*21 Looking at the man, Jesus felt genuine love for him. "There is still one thing you haven't done," he told him. "Go and sell all your possessions and give the money to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven. Then come, follow me." 22 At this **the man's face fell, and he went away sad, for he had many possessions.***

The rich man was already living on what we call THE MOUNTAIN TOP. But he hungered for more, and when Jesus told him what would truly complete him... "His face fell."

Work hard to follow what I want to teach today... Why do we take pictures of marvelous moments?

Most people think they take pictures to capture what they love. We take pictures of what feel are MOUNTAIN TOP MOMENTS.... But what if we look closer. Might we realize something deeper: Do we photograph what we fear losing?

Think about it . . . on vacation, we frantically snap photos of sunsets, beaches, city streets, and family dinners. Why? Deep down, do we know the moment is temporary?

While on this MOUNTAIN TOP MOMENT are we already grieving it in real time, even as we smile for the camera. A part of us understands that the laughter at that table, the way the light hits the water, even the feeling of being free from everyday life... it's all slipping at that moment.

The same thing happens at all our MOUNTAIN TOP MOMENTS -- birthdays, weddings, and graduations. We hold up phones to record our child walking across a stage or our best friend saying "I

do,” not because the present-moment isn’t enough, but because we’re afraid it won’t last...or that we might forget it.

There’s nothing wrong with taking photos; I simply want us to think deeply about what is going on in our hearts.

- “I am afraid I will forget this.”
- “I am afraid this will change.”
- “I am afraid I will never be this happy again.”

We don’t just take pictures to remember what matters.

- Might we take pictures because we know we can’t hold onto that moment forever?
- If we are not careful then we actually in these MOUNTAIN TOP MOMENTS, while trying to hold onto the moment, make it permanent by working, being distracted and not present in that moment.

I’m confident we can all agree that our phone photos and videos can never fully replicate the moment. Every breath-taking view I see never produces the same feeling when I look at the picture or video I took.

The reality is, when I am taking pictures in the Mountain Top Moment, I miss the fullest extent of the experience all the while trying to make the moment last.

We all want to stay in our Mountain Top Moments. Something keeps telling us that the Mountain Tops are where all the beauty in life resides.

So, we keep climbing, clawing, working, to keep the moment. And not only that, but we post it on our social media threads and then we start to compare our Mountain Top Moments with other posts of people trying to preserve the feeling of their moment.

I’m exhausted from just talking about it! So, just for deep thought and learning...

- How many of us grow and get better during the Mountain Top experiences? The weddings, birthdays, graduations, vacations, day trips, and anything else we leave the moment to get a camera to capture the moment we are experiencing

It’s difficult to try to teach this...maybe we would do better to sit back and listen to a song, and then I’ll come back and we’ll work out these deep thoughts some more.

- **Ashlee...FLOWERS by Samantha Ebert**

The greatest frenemy in our life is DISCONTENTMENT. Likely the best sentence to grasp all of this is... “We are all searching for the feeling we had before the fall.”

- **Photosynthesis: Flowers look to the sun for nourishment**

God wired us -- He told us WHO WE ARE.

- **Outside that relationship where we are told we are loved, valuable, and beautiful, we strive to find it however we can.**
- **Who told you there is anything wrong with you?**
- **Who told you what true mountain top experiences are worth photographing?**

Flowers rarely grow on the mountain tops -- they grow in the Valley.

All of a sudden David's psalm feels very different

"Yea, though I walk through the VALLEY of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil!" (Psalm 23:4)

Habakkuk 3:17-19

"Even though the fig trees have no blossoms, and there are no grapes on the vines; even though the olive crop fails, and the fields lie empty and barren; even though the flocks die in the fields, and the cattle barns are empty, 18 yet I will rejoice in the Lord! I will be joyful in the God of my salvation! 19 The Sovereign Lord is my strength!"

Philippians 4:11-12

"Not that I was ever in need, for I have learned how to be content with whatever I have. 12 I know how to live on almost nothing or with everything. I have learned the secret of living in every situation, whether it is with a full stomach or empty, with plenty or little. 13 For I can do everything through Christ, who gives me strength. 14 Even so, you have done well to share with me in my present difficulty."

James 1:2-4

"Dear brothers and sisters, when troubles of any kind come your way, consider it an opportunity for great joy. 3 For you know that when your faith is tested, your endurance has a chance to grow. 4 So let it grow, for when your endurance is fully developed, you will be perfect and complete, needing nothing."

"When I'm on the mountain and looking down below, I'll see a valley of flowers that needed time to grow and I'll thank you for the rain, the hurt, and days of pain. And I'll bring it up in a grateful prayer. Thank you, Jesus for keeping me there. You know just what I need, and you've planted seeds. 'Cause you're a good God with a real good plan and you hold my world in a watering can. So, I can have peace 'cause flowers grow in the valley." Samantha Ebert - Flowers

Mountain Top Experiences are few -- Glorious and Few

- **Character is not developed on mountain tops -- be on guard**
- **Mountain tops can easily convert from Friend to Enemy -- that makes it your frenemy**

Valley Experiences are frequent

- Flowers grow in the Valley!
- If we choose, Valleys are our best friend

Cherish them both. Life is short. God is good on the mountains and God is good in the valleys.

Everything good in life can easily become our greatest problem.

- It's good to take in the moment of the mountain top
- We can't prevent a journey through the valley
- Let's keep our hearts and minds locked in on Jesus and press on to the finish line of the faith!