



For Immediate Prayer Release

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What NOW Continues with Lesson on Relationships

Harrisburg, PA – It appears the message is beginning to get out that there is a church in Harrisburg for people who desire straight talk about the tough issues of life.

Boldly venturing into life's most complex maze, the Urban Life Church continued its ten-part teaching series called [What NOW](#), navigating the maze of transition, trials and change. NOW is the acronym for Nuggets of Wisdom. Pastors Chris and Carol Green present nuggets of wisdom from Proverbs 1 to provide real life answers and practical applications for people who are facing some of the tough challenges of life.

"This week we took on the challenge of exploring what we call, life's most complex maze," says lead instructor Chris Green. "There is probably nothing more difficult than trying to understand another human being."

The Sunday morning session is hosted in the dining hall of the Pennsylvania Council of Churches facility in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania. The pastors were thrilled to see two more visitors in the audience. One of them was an out-of-state guest of one of the members of Urban Life Church. The young man said he connected with the pastor's heart and the style of ministry immediately because the atmosphere was like that of a counselor. As a graduate student pursuing degrees in marriage and family counseling, he readily identified with the spirit of the session.

Pastor Chris talked about three words from Proverbs 1:3 that are essential for navigating relationships: **Justice, Judgment and Equity**. The discussion offered a fresh understanding about **Justice**: what it means to set things right, **Judgment**: appraising and evaluating others without jumping to conclusions based upon negative experiences, and **Equity**: the ability to see value in others in spite of damage or debt.

"I always get kind of emotional when I talk about this subject," confesses Pastor Chris. "There are so many deeply hurting people in this community, much of which has come from within their own families. I see a community that desperately desires right relationships, but they are so disillusioned that it seems our words are mere fantasy."

"This was an amazing teaching," adds Carol Green, Chris' wife of 29 years. "This was the best explanation of why we must walk in forgiveness that I've ever seen." Her husband presented a diagram based upon how home appraisers calculate the value of a home and how bankers decide how much equity is available to make repairs on the house. Chris explained that even after a debt of offense is granted; it still does not mean the damage has been repaired. However, after an offense is forgiven (debt canceled), there is equity available to BEGIN repairing the home, or the relationship.

"Many people want their apology to solve the damage," contends Pastor Chris "The apology cancels the debt, but it doesn't restore the trust. That is a process that takes time and work."

Once again, a visitor departed with a sense of excitement regarding the Urban Life Church Sunday Café, saying this was really fresh and innovative because many people talk about a new approach, but not many are willing to actually step out and do something different.

"It is tough to do something different," Pastor Chris admits. "You have your peers who may not understand what you are doing and you have your critics who think you're trying to be appealing to the world."

"These pastors have always been cutting edge and innovative," says long-time friend, ministry partner and What NOW book Editor DeVata Davis. "Back when they were youth, young adult and singles ministry pastors, they were doing things that made church people uncomfortable, but it was what worked to reach people outside of the church. They aren't trying to be different. They're just being who God made them to be."

"Everything that we do is to help people get closer to God," concludes the What NOW author. " Sunday, we sat together eating sausage and egg biscuits, sang together a song of worship, prayed together for the people of Chile, shared the pain of betrayal, and laughed together as we worked through a relationship building exercise. It was all done to help everyone draw closer to one another and the Lord."

For more information visit www.urbanlife-church.org or www.fruitful-life.net

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