

**THE CREATOR-CREATURE CONFLICT**  
**Lesson 449 – April 7, 2013**

**/WELCOME TO BARAH MINISTRIES**

**Good Morning!**

**Let's Make a Mental Shift \**

Good Morning! Galatians, Chapter 2, Verse 20 says...

/GAL 2:20

*"I have been crucified with Christ; and it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in(dwelling) me; and the (Zoe) life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me (unconditionally) and (who) gave Himself up (as a substitute) for me."*\

Welcome to bible study...another chance to learn how to live the New Self Life, the Zoe Life, the resurrection life...a life of abundance. The Lord Jesus Christ has His believers targeted for a life beyond belief, and we live by faith in Him. He is our hope, our sustenance, and our protector. We come to bible study to learn what He is doing for us, even when we sleep.

<WHERE IS YOUR SOUL TUNED? no verse...let the verse pop in on the next click>

The Word of God refers to bible study as a time of RENEWING, a time for us to gain a new perspective on our relationships, on our problems, on our spiritual walk, and on every little victory God brings into our lives. We forget the past. We look forward with eager anticipation to the future. The perspective we gain as we learn to look at life through God's eyes gives us joy. John, Chapter 15, Verse 11 says...

/JOH 15:11

*"These things I (the Lord Jesus Christ) have spoken to you so that My joy may be in you, and that your joy may be made full."*\

God is for us; therefore, no one is successful against us. We celebrate the fact that we know with absolute certainty that God loves us unconditionally. God never gives us what we deserve. He always saves the best for last. Our God is special in that He is the only being ever to have risen from the dead in resurrection. His resurrection gives us the confident expectation that we, too, will be resurrected from the dead at a future time. Welcome to a place where you can learn about your God, and where you can "in humility receive the Word implanted, which is able to save your souls."

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**/MUSIC AND REFLECTION**

*Be Occupied with the Person of the Lord Jesus Christ*

Enjoy the Singing of His Praises

Worthy\

As God prepares you for the RENEWING of your mind, let's hear June Murphy worship our Lord in song, while you think about all the things God gives you to make your joy complete. The opening song is... WORTHY.

**/OPENING PRAYER**

Let us pray...\

We're grateful Heavenly Father for the privilege of studying the absolute truth...the Word of God...

Help us to use your unconditional love in our everyday lives, and especially with our children.

We ask this through the power of God the Holy Spirit...in Christ's name...Amen.

**/WELCOME TO BARAH MINISTRIES**

Rory Clark

Pastor-Teacher\

Welcome to Barah Ministries. My name is Rory Clark. My spiritual gift is Pastor-Teacher, a gift given to me by God for the purpose of equipping you believers in Christ for the work of service. Welcome to a ministry designed for people who want to develop a deep, intimate and personal relationship with the Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

**/TODAY'S STUDY**

**Unconditional Love leads to Unconditional Parenting\**

First, a few announcements.

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**/ANNOUNCEMENTS\**

**/Mark Your Calendars!**

The next Lord's Supper Celebration is April 14, 2013

**NEXT WEEK!\**

**/Mark Your Calendars!**

**HOMECOMING**

for the

“Soon to Be Resident” Congregation

**June 15-16\**

The weekend is being coordinated by Deacon Caleb Alburn and Mandy Alburn...registration is on the website. Please register if you are coming, so we can know how many people to plan for...Pastor John Farley will be joining us for the event!

**/Mark Your Calendars!**

Coeur D'Alene, Idaho

**BIBLE CONFERENCE**

**August 9\**

**/Mark Your Calendars!**

No Face-to-Face Bible Study

April 21

June 30

September 1

December 8

December 29\

**/Mark Your Calendars!**

Next Prayer Service

**TODAY**

**April 7\**

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Immediately following the last lesson. “Soon to Be Resident” Congregation Members can send prayer requests to [pastor@barahministries.com](mailto:pastor@barahministries.com).

Happy Birthday to the April babies!

/Happy Birthday  
Nancy Rubyal  
April 7\

/Happy Birthday  
Trenton Phares?  
April 8\

/Happy Birthday  
Emily Brumbach  
April 9\

/Happy Birthday  
Pastor Rory Clark  
April 13\

/Happy Birthday  
Rachel Johnston  
April 26\

Barah Women’s Fundraiser  
April 19th at 7PM  
Susie Embree’s House\

Next, let’s take the offering. Let’s welcome up Deacon Denny Goodall.

**/THE OFFERING**  
Deacon Denny Goodall\

/Barah Ministries Financial Policy  
No price appears on any material from Barah Ministries so that anyone who desires biblical teaching may have it free of charge.\

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**/OFFERING VERSES**

LUK 16:10

*“He who is faithful in a very little thing is faithful also in much; and he who is unrighteous in a very little thing is unrighteous also in much.”\*

/Remember to give with the motivation suggested in Scripture

2CO 9:7

*Each one must do just as he has purposed in his heart, not grudgingly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful (grace oriented) giver.\*

**/OFFERING SONG**

*He is Exalted\*

**/TODAY’S STUDY**

**Unconditional Love leads to Unconditional Parenting\**

Turn in your bibles to First John, Chapter 4, Verse 7...

A teen-ager I know attempted suicide this week. By the grace of our almighty God, he was not successful. But his situation turned my attention to the subject of parenting. I have seen powerlessness and desperation among parents of this generation for quite some time, and I think it is time for us to investigate the subject. Many parents today think they have no ability to influence their children, especially their teen-age children. I disagree, and so does the Word of God. I see parents of grown children intervening in the lives of their grown children, perhaps even intervening in the lives of their grandchildren, and I see the same powerlessness and desperation present in these interactions. These things are happening right here in our own congregation. So what’s the solution to this human dilemma? Let’s look at First John, Chapter 4, Verse 7...

/1JO 4:7

*Beloved (ones), let us love one another (unconditionally), for (unconditional) love is from (the source of) God; and everyone who loves (unconditionally) is born of God (they are believers in Christ) and (everyone who loves (unconditionally) knows God.\*

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Believers in the Lord Jesus Christ are able to love unconditionally. We can duplicate the unconditional love God has for us and we can direct it toward others from the source of our New Self.

/1JO 4:8

*The one who does not love (unconditionally) does not know God, for God is (unconditional) love.\*

The Old Self does not love unconditionally, and the Old Self is not able to love unconditionally. <Example: THE OLD SELF REACTION TO EXTRAMARITAL AFFAIRS>

/1JO 4:9

*By this (unconditional love from the source of God) the (unconditional) love of God was manifested (made clearly visible) in us (through the New Self), that God (the Father) has sent His only begotten (uniquely born) Son into the world so that we might live (the Zoe Life...the resurrection life) through Him.\*

/1JO 4:10

*In this (sending of His Son) is (unconditional) love, not that we loved God (the Father unconditionally), but that He (God the Father) loved us (unconditionally) and sent His Son (the Lord Jesus Christ) to be the propitiation (the ONLY perfectly satisfactory payment recognized by God the Father) for our sins.\*

/1JO 4:11

*Beloved (ones), if (I) God (the Father) so loved us (unconditionally, and He did), we also ought to love one another (unconditionally).\*

In God the Father, we have a parent who loves us unconditionally. Therefore, as parents, we are asked by God to love our children unconditionally. Parents...do you love your children unconditionally or are you expecting something from them, and when they deliver it, only then will they be acceptable to you? Are you holding them to a set of standards that were shoved down your throat by your parents, which you did not like, and

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yet even though you didn't like them you pass them on? Does your Christianity show up in the parenting of your children?

We know expectations kill relationships. Unconditional love has no expectations. Unconditional love is a giving and a forgiving love. Do you parents love your children unconditionally? Do you give to them without expectation of return, just because you want to? Do you forgive their mistakes? Or do you bully them? Do you guilt trip them? Do you reject them? Do you harass them?

Take a five-minute break and think about your relationship with your children.

/BREAK

*When I Think About Home\*

Welcome back!

A quick reminder for those of you who have taken out your mental rubber hoses to flog yourself with...Romans, Chapter 8, Verse 1 says...

/ROM 8:1

*Therefore there is now no condemnation for those who are in (union with) Christ Jesus.\*

You don't have to beat yourself up about your parenting. Anything in your parenting that is in the past can't be fixed. I made a lot of mistakes as a parent, even though I had a parenting philosophy and a parenting strategy. Yet by no means was I a perfect parent. I did not parent with unconditional love and I was a coercive parent. Coercive parenting works perfectly as long as you are there, standing over the person, and forcing them to do what you want done. It worked well when I was home, but since I traveled about sixty to one hundred days a year, it made coercive parenting a tough strategy to run.

When my boys were six and four years old, a friend of mine pulled me aside with tears in his eyes and begged me to not be so hard on my children. I heard everything he said, and it actually really made me take a hard look at my parenting. I didn't like what I saw. I thanked him for the feedback, and

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I also told him that although I felt I was failing my children as a parent at that moment, I was encouraged by the fact that I had at least twelve to fourteen more years to perfect my quite imperfect parenting. If God wanted our children to have perfect human parents, He would have given them perfect human parents. He didn't.

Kahlil Gibran, in a book called *The Prophet*, offers sound advice to parents about their children.

/Kahlil Gibran...The Prophet  
"On Children"

And a woman who held a babe against her bosom said, "Speak to us of Children." And he said:

Your children are not your children.  
They are the sons and daughters of Life's longing for itself.  
They come through you but not from you...  
And though they are with you, yet they belong not to you.\

/Kahlil Gibran...The Prophet  
"On Children"

You may give them your love but not your thoughts.  
For they have their own thoughts.  
You may house their bodies but not their souls...  
For their souls dwell in the house of tomorrow...  
Which you cannot visit, not even in your dreams.\

/Kahlil Gibran...The Prophet  
"On Children"

You may strive to be like them, but seek not to make them like you.  
For life goes not backward...nor does it tarry with yesterday.  
You are the bows from which your children as living arrows are sent forth.\

/Kahlil Gibran...The Prophet  
"On Children"



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The archer (God) sees the mark upon the path of the infinite...  
And He bends you (parents) with His might  
That His arrows (your children) may go swift and far.  
Let your bending in the archer's hand be for gladness;  
For even as he loves the arrow that flies...  
So He loves also the bow that is stable.\

Do you parents love your children unconditionally? Do you understand that your job as a parent is temporary? Do you understand that your job is to create competent individuals who can stand on their own two feet independently by the age of eighteen? Do you realize you have to do that job in the face of some of the toughest resistance you will ever experience in life? Do you understand that it is never too late to influence your children before they leave your home? Do you understand that your parenting can drive a child to think that the only way out is suicide?

Turn in your bibles to Proverbs, Chapter 13, Verse 24...the Proverbs make several comments on life and on conduct, and have especially sound advice about child rearing...

/PRO 13:24

*He who withholds his rod hates his son, But he who loves him disciplines him diligently.\*

A parent can provide children under the age of thirteen with the temporary discomfort of spankings to save them the long-term discomfort of an undisciplined life.

/PRO 19:18

*Discipline your son while there is hope, and do not desire his death.\*

When son is mentioned it is not just a commentary about male children. Females are included as well. This is a Hebrew imperative, and it warns against parental passivity that can lead to a child's death.

/PRO 22:6

***Train up (dedicate yourself to) a child in the way he should go (narrow his path), even when he is old he will not depart (turn away) from it.\***

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Establishing patterns early have payoff later.

/PRO 22:15

*Foolishness (folly) is bound up in the heart of a child; The rod of discipline will remove it far from him.\*

Discipline replaces folly with wisdom.

/PRO 23:13-14

*Do not hold back discipline from the child, Although you strike him with the rod, he will not die.//You shall strike him with the rod And rescue his soul from Sheol.\*

The wise child benefits from discipline.

/PRO 29:17

*Correct your son, and he will give you comfort; He will also delight your soul.\*

The payoff for disciplining your child is peace and joy. In the New Testament, a few verses...Ephesians, Chapter 6, Verse 4...

/EPH 6:4

*Fathers, do not provoke your children to anger, but bring them up in the discipline and instruction of the Lord.\*

Fathers have to watch for a tendency to be overbearing, to introduce too many rules, to make unreasonable demands, and to promote a climate of favoritism. Ephesians, Chapter 6, Verses 1 to 3...a message to children...do your part!

/EPH 6:1-3

*Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right.//HONOR YOUR FATHER AND MOTHER (which is the first commandment with a promise), //SO THAT IT MAY BE WELL WITH YOU, AND THAT YOU MAY LIVE LONG ON THE EARTH.\*

You can love your children with unconditional love. When you look at your children and see them as God sees them, you will never allow them to think that they are a disappointment to you. We'll spend a few lessons illustrating

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what unconditional love is when it comes to parenting, as a way for us to remember that it's not the Christian Way of Life...it's the ``Christian Way of Living!!!

### /CLOSING SONG

Take My Hand\

### CLOSING VERSES

/JER 29:11

*“For I know the plans that I have for you,” declares the Lord, “plans for welfare and not for calamity to give you a future and a hope.”\*

/1PE 5:6-7

*Therefore humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God, that He may exalt you at the proper time, //casting all your anxiety on Him, because He cares for you.\*

/JUD 1:24-25

*Now to Him who is able to keep you from stumbling, and to make you stand in the presence of His glory blameless with great joy, //to the only God our Savior, through Jesus Christ our Lord, be glory, majesty, dominion and authority, before all time and now and forever. Amen.\*

### /CLOSING PRAYER

Let us pray...\

THANKS  
INTERCESSION  
PETITION

And we pray that you continue to shape the messages from this pulpit that are an accurate reflection of your person, your thinking, your work, your reputation and your essence...we ask this through the power of God the Holy Spirit, in Christ's name, Amen.

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/Thanks for coming!  
Thanks for watching!  
Thanks for listening!

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