

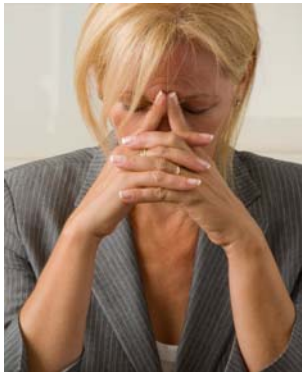
Let's Talk CHANGE DEVOTIONALS



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FACTS, NOT FEELINGS

Dr. Vanessa Dantzer Ussery | May 31, 2017



One of the biggest downfalls of our humanness is relying on our feelings when it's the facts that should govern our actions. Men often falter women for being feeling driven. However, both genders are guilty of feelings being our motivation for what we do. One big area where we allow feelings to govern and overlook the facts is how we love others.

Luke 6:35-36 explicitly expresses that God expects us to love our enemies and be kind and do good for those who don't deserve it. He writes that when we operate that way we receive a greater reward from the Lord because we are operating as sons of the most High God. Our God is kind and gracious to the wicked and the evil ones in our world. When given the Spirit of Christ via the Holy Ghost we are empowered to do the same thing. However, we often find ways to rationalize why we are not required to do this because it doesn't feel good to our fleshly (human) spirit.

The fact is, our feelings are opposed to the ways of God particularly if it seems we are being used or mistreated by others. The writer even makes it clear that we should lend to those who are undeserving not looking for a return. My rule of thumb has been whenever I lend funds if I'm repaid it's a bonus. The question is, should one continue to do for good to our enemy when negative behavior is consistently portrayed? Again, our feelings say fool me once shame on you, fool me twice shame on me. However, that response is not in agreement with the facts of the word of God. Our true objective in life is to draw people to Christ by how we live our lives. More often than not it means being misunderstood as an easy target, a pushover, etc.

We must really check our feelings against God's word. If our feelings contradict His word, then we must operate on the facts not feelings. My prayer is that we remain sensitive to the leading of the Holy Spirit to know when we are feelings driven and opposing the word. Check yourself, are you holding on to your feelings and not the facts?

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