

SHOES - Part 3
"Work Shoes" by Pastor Randy Deal
June 28, 2009

The Heart of Conflict...ME!

Matthew 15:19

James 4:1-3

Put on MY work shoes... **I DESIRE! > I DEMAND! > I JUDGE! > I PUNISH!**

I DESIRE...

I can either trust God and seek my fulfillment in Him, or I can keep fighting to achieve my desire, dwelling on my disappointment and allowing my desire and disappointment to control my life!

I DEMAND...

I "want" turns into I "need!" "I wish I could have this" turns into "I must have this!"

I JUDGE... (Matthew 7:1-5, Luke 18:9-14, James 3:14-15 & 4:11-12)

When I judge others and condemn them in my heart for not meeting my desires, I am imitating Satan, not Christ! I need to get the log out of my own eye!

I PUNISH... (Genesis 4:1-8, Proverbs 27:15, James 4:1-3)

I will find ways to punish people so they will give in to my desires!

USE ODOR-EATERS... (1 John 1:8-9, Proverbs 28:13)

Confess your sins (Psalm 32:3-5; 41:4, Matthew 5:8, Luke 19:8, James 5:16).

Own the blame (Psalm 51:1-17, Matthew 7:1-5, 1 John 1:10).

No ambiguity (Matthew 15:19, James 4:11, Proverbs 12:18; 15:1; Ephesians 4:29, Philippians 2:14, James 5:9, Exodus 20:16, Proverbs 11:13; 16:28; 20:19; 24:28; 26:20, 1 Timothy 5:13, Leviticus 19:16; 2 Timothy 3:3; Titus 2:3, Matthew 5:37; Psalm 15:1, 4, Mark 10:42-45; Romans 13:1-7; 1 Peter 2:18-25, Matthew 7:12).

Face the hurt (Luke 6:31; 35-37, Philippians 2:4, Hebrews 10:24).

Embrace the consequences (Numbers 5:5-7, Luke 15:19).

Stop bad behaviors (Ephesians 4:17-32).

Solicit forgiveness (Genesis 50:17, Matthew 5:7,9, Romans 12:18, 2 Corinthians 5:19).

THE BIG IDEA:
THE SECOND STEP IN CONFLICT RESOLUTION REQUIRES
ME TO WORK ON MYSELF!

SHOES - PART 3

SHARPEN THE POINT

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For further study of today's message

ENTRY POINT: Frequently, it is not what we want that is the problem, but that we want it too much! Anything we desire more than God, becomes our god. The result is often conflict, either with others or within ourselves. But Scripture tells us "always be *full of joy in the Lord,*" and where to fix our hearts and thoughts. Read **Philippians 4:4-8**.

Anything I view as being essential to my fulfillment and well-being, becomes a demand for something I am putting before God. How would I answer the question: "If only _____, then I would be happy, fulfilled and secure?"

What is there I want so badly that I have been willing to sin, i.e., hurt God or others, in order to have it?

When I confess my desires to God, am I able to embrace His consequences? How have I experienced His plan to give me what I need rather than what I want or deserve?

How do I get to the place where I am willing to apologize and ask forgiveness from others? How do I stay there, and not repeat sinful words and behaviors?

*"Create in me a clean heart, O God.
Renew a right spirit within me."
Psalm 51:10 (NLT)*