The Gift of Presence

Scriptures from New International Version unless noted

Being Present

Key Concept
Presence influences joy and happiness in life.

Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind.
Romans 12:2

Every year Jesus' parents went to Jerusalem for the Passover festival. When Jesus was twelve years old, they attended the festival as usual. After the celebration was over, they started home to Nazareth, but Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem. His parents didn't miss him at first, because they assumed he was among the other travelers. But when he didn't show up that evening, they started looking for him among their relatives and friends. When they couldn't find him, they went back to Jerusalem to search for him there. Three days later they finally discovered him in the Temple, sitting among the religious teachers, listening to them and asking questions. All who heard him were amazed at his understanding and his answers. His parents didn't know what to think. "Son," his mother said to him, "Why have you done this to us? Your father and I have been frantic, searching for you everywhere." "But why did you need to search?" he asked. "Didn't you know that I must be in my Father's house?" But they didn't understand what he meant.

Luke 2:41-50 (NLT)

Jesus was _____ and _____.

Listening is the language of love, because listening <u>validates</u> people as <u>valuable.</u>

The anticipation of what could be is not more important than the person in front of you, who is.

"My dear Martha, you are worried and upset over all these details! There is only one thing worth being concerned about. Mary has discovered it, and it will not be taken away from her."
Luke 10:41-42 (NLT)

No one needed to tell him about human nature, for he knew what was in each person's heart.
John 2:25 (NLT)

"Didn't you know that I must be in my father's house?"
Luke 2:49 (NLT)

"Did you not know that I must be about My Father's business?"
Luke 2:49 (NKJV)

Being Better at Being Present

1. **Evaluate your _____**

“Be still, and know that I am God!”

Psalm 46:10a (NLT)

2. **Identify your _____**

What kind of relational legacy do you want to leave?

3. **Power down _____**

4. **Install “_____”**

Presence communicates: “<u>You matter to me!”</u>