



*SUBSTANCE OF GOOD & LASTING
RELATIONSHIPS: INTERDEPENDENCE*
ECCLESIASTES 4:9-12

Woodland Park Church of Christ

1 April 2018

INTRODUCTION

In relationships, we find at least two ways the members get things done –

1. **Independently** – An individual works by himself or herself without input or contribution of the other(s).

Note Moses' father in law's word of caution.

Exodus 18:17-23

- Taking on more than you should alone is neither good for you nor the people you are serving.



2. Dependently – One person consciously does not provide input and relies exclusively on the other(s) to get things done.

- But Paul instructs us to bear one another's burdens and fulfill the law of Christ, noting that each, however, should bear his own load.

Galatians 6:2, 5



**Our text alludes to yet another way,
which is by far the best, to get things
done →**

3. Interdependently: where members and participants come to rely on one another in a commune of responsibility sharing. Where individuals willingly accept their role and move for the good of the enterprise, team or relationship.

**ROBYN'S BAD HAIR DAY & the NEED FOR
HER MOTHER!**



OBSERVATIONS

- Each should use his or her gifts and talents to make the relationship (team, marriage, family) stronger and more rewarding for everyone.
- All should seek to inspire and encourage (e.g., lift up) others on the team or in the relationship by our contribution – especially spouse children.
- Each should generate energy that helps power through difficult and demanding seasons of life.
- Add to the overall strength and fortification of the enterprise.



REAL POWER OF TEAM & ENTERPRISE

- **T**ogether
- **E**veryone
- **A**chieves
- **M**ore



LORD'S INVITATION

- **Be added to the Lord's body**

Hear the gospel (**Romans 10:17**)

Believe the gospel (**Hebrews 11:6, Acts 15:7**)

Repent of sins (**Acts 2:38**)

Confess Christ (**Acts 8:38; Romans 10:10**)

Be baptized for the remission of sin (**Acts 2:38**)

or



INVITATION (CONT'D)

- Be reconciled unto the Lord (**I John 1:9**); or
- Desire prayer (**James 5:16**).

