

# The Power of Affirmation

The greatest need in the church (and in the world) is the need for “affirmation.”

- Much of the Church has been introduced to Jesus but has never been affirmed in the “love of God.”
- We will never live and act as “sons” until we have been affirmed.

English definition: pronouncement; declaration; confirmation; assertion; statement; verification; avowal

The greatest affirmation verse in Scripture → Matthew 3:17 – “*This is my beloved son, in whom I am well pleased.*”

- *agapetos* – esteemed, dear, favorite, worthy of love
- From God’s perspective, He has already established this concerning us!
  - Ephesians 1:6 – God has graced us among the affirmed!
  - Colossians 3:12 – We cannot be clothed properly until we have been affirmed.
  - There are 61 verses in the NT that use the term “beloved.”

Affirmation establishes us in the love of God when we receive and process the truth. (The truth has to be processed in order to produce fruit.)

John 8:31, 32, 36 → In order for the truth to liberate us...

It has to be  
spoken in love.

(JESUS)  
TRUTH

Has to be received  
without fear.

(Ephesians 4:15)

(2 Thess. 2:10, 11)

Truth is the only thing that can:

- mature us (Ephesians 4:15)
- liberate us (John 8:32)
  - *from* sin and the effects of the fall
  - *into* sonship (Romans 8:21)
- save us (2 Thessalonians 2:10)
- break deception ( “ )
- make us secure

# Creating an Environment of Affirmation

All love (agape) begins with God.

- 1 John 4:7

There has to be a conducive "environment" for transformation to take place.

- Unconditional love (TUA – Total Unconditional Acceptance) is the perfect environment for growth.
- God will affirm us directly, but He will also do it through people (the Body

If truth is not spoken in love, it will only produce fear (and never result in maturity).

Ephesians 4:15 – "...speaking the truth in love...that you may grow up..."

- God's love for us is a given.
- We can create a nurturing environment of love so that others can grow.

1 John 4:6-8 – As we grow, our capacity to love increases. As our capacity to love increases, we create an environment for others to grow.

- v.12 – an environment of love.
- v.18 – an environment of fear.

**Colossians 2:7** –

Footer → "That you, **being rooted and grounded in love**...may become...

Edifice → "...continually built up in Him,

Foundation → "...increasingly more confirmed and established in the faith,

Furnishings → "...abounding and overflowing with thanksgiving."

Affirmation allows me to speak to you so that you can get in touch with who you really are.

- We have to "affirm" our identity in Christ that comes through revelation of the Word (Truth).
- Affirming others requires that we have no personal agenda. (sacrificial and unconditional)
- What is the greatest hindrance to affirmation? (Insecurity → FEAR)

# Affirmation and Prophecy

Affirmation is a prophetic action that brings forth destiny in others when proclaimed.

- Gideon → you mighty man of valor
- Simon → Rock
- Jeremiah → prophet to the nations
- David → King
- Jesus → he shall save his people from their sins (Savior)

An authentic environment will prophetically affirm those who are associated with it so they can access TUA for themselves. (which will lead to spiritual maturity in them)

A church that can create an atmosphere of affirmation through love is a place that will experience accelerated transformation.

1 Corinthians 14:3 – Prophecy...

- ...speaks to the future (edification)
- ...speaks to the present (exhortation)
- ...speaks to the past (comfort)

Being grounded in affirmation (knowing that we are loved by God and others) will liberate us from fear and move us into higher realms of faith.

- It will create a great sense of security and safety within us which will lead to increased trust (and eventually rest).
- Much of our praying is done in fear because we are not affirmed.

Galatians 5:6 – “...*Faith which is activated and energized and expressed and working through love.*”

- We will never be able to operate in faith until we have been affirmed in God’s love (towards us)!

The fruit of affirmation is a result of the wholeness (integrity) of the one affirming.

- You cannot give something that you do not have. Un-affirmed and insecure people cannot affirm others.
- When God (The Father) affirms us, there is no higher source of integrity.
- An immature 5-fold ministry cannot produce mature saints.

# Affirming Others

Affirmation components: accuracy  
other-centeredness  
eye contact (soft eyes, soft voice)  
brief statements  
[scripted start]

Practice doing this with others...

Performance driven behavior is rooted in an un-affirmed identity.

- Luke 4 - *“If you are the son of God...”* (then do something)
- Son-ship is positional, not based on performance (even though our position as a son will result in a particular performance).

Love (affirmation) fills our basic needs. (see needs chart)

- Without our basic needs being met by love --- all of our behavior will be geared to meet the needs.
- When the basic needs are met by love, we can then move to the higher “transcendent needs” of growth and contribution.

Any legitimate ministry coming out of us will only be the result of the love of God working in us (hence, the necessity for “transformation” into the image of Christ).

- Anything else is from the soul (and is probably motivated by need and/or fear).