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EXPECTATIONS- A strong belief that something will happen.

1. Do you have any expectations for 2025?

2. Are all expectations the same?

- Reasonable or unreasonable
- Good or bad
- High or Low

3. Are all your expectations right or always, correct?

- Our expectations are not always correct because of flaws in our logic and the bias of hope and desire.
- Sometimes, we “*get our hopes up*” based on a false premise or a misreading of the evidence.

4. Have you ever got your hopes up based on false or bad evidence?

5. What happens to us when expectations are not met?

- We experience Hurt and Pain
- We place blame on something or someone who did not live up to our expectations.
(*Even if our expectations were unreasonable*)

6. Expectations based on human assumptions can be dangerous. Why?

- When a man and a woman get married, they both carry expectations into the marriage.

Example: The man see that the wife is caring, kind and a patient person. He formed an expectation about what she would be like as a mother. Or perhaps his own mother was a great cook, and he expects his wife to possess the same culinary skills. If she does not turn out to be a patient mother or a particularly good cook, he may feel hurt and let down.

The woman goes into the marriage seeing the husband has a good Job and is well-liked by others. She has an expectation that they will not have any money problems.

(*If he loses his job or changes careers and they begin to struggle financially, she may resent him based on her expectations*)

This couple is now dealing with **hurt feelings and resentment based on what they hoped would have happened.**

(*There was no promise made in either case, but they both felt as if they were deceived.*)

7. Faulty expectations can create a lot of trouble in any relationship.

- Parent/child
- Boss/ employee
- Friends
- Ministry
- Sport

8. How can culture and upbringing impact expectations?

- Much of our expectations come from what we're used to, our family growing up, and our own personalities.

(If you grew up in a family where shouting and open conflict was the normal way to solve problems, you will expect others to shout if they have a problem with you)

9. Where's the danger in this? A person who chooses to hide their emotions and talk issues out may find it impossible to convince you that they've been hurt—they're not shouting yet, so it can't be that serious—and you therefore continue to repeat the behavior that irritates her.

10. What are some things we should expect?

- Expectations can be high or low, reasonable or unreasonable, good or bad. The Bible speaks of **expectations of redemption (Romans 8:19)**, **expectations of judgment (Hebrews 10:27)**, **delayed expectations (Proverbs 13:12a)**, **realized expectations (Proverbs 13:12b)**, and unrealized expectations **(Proverbs 11:7)**.
- Jesus told us to expect His return—although the *timing* of His return is beyond our knowing: "Be ready, because the Son of Man will come at an hour when you do not expect him" **(Luke 12:40)**.

11. There are some people who the Bible says should not expect much.

(James 1:7) the double-minded, faithless man should not expect answers to prayer: That person should not **expect** to receive anything from the Lord.

12. The Bible encourages those who trust in the Lord to expect good things from Him.

(Psalm 62:5) My soul, wait thou only upon God; for my expectation is from him.

(Proverbs 23:18) Those who live in the fear of the Lord have this promise in There is surely a future hope for you, / and your hope will not be cut off. The godly are justified in having great expectations.

13. The Bible lays out some principles that help us form expectations and deal with the expectations of others:

Communicate- (James 3:2) We all stumble in many ways. If anyone does not stumble in what he says, he is a mature man who is able to control his whole body.

- Openness and honesty with ourselves and others are the first key, because we all have faults.
- We should be able to admit when we are wrong.
- We should discuss with our loved ones what our expectations are, and they should discuss theirs.

Forgive-(Luke 3:15) Now the people were waiting expectantly, and all of them were debating in their minds whether John might be the messiah.

- The people in Jesus Day were expecting the Messiah, but when he came, they had unrealistic expectations on what he should do. They wanted him to free them from the Roman oppressors. When he did not fulfill their expectations, they were frustrated and angry enough to have him killed.

(Luke 23:24) If Jesus could forgive them who call out for him to be crucified, we should forgive those who have wrong expectations of us.

Love (1 Cor 4-7) Love is patient and kind, and it does not insist on its own way.

We need to remember that all people are different. If we have expectations of friends and loved ones that they cannot meet or live up to it's not their fault. We have the power to change our expectations, and, if we find that our expectations of others are unreasonable, we should be flexible.

Conclusion:

In everything, we should look to God and trust in him. **We can't expect people to do everything they said, but we can expect God will do exactly what he said he would do.** When based on God's word, our expectations will never fail to be met.

