# Holy Manners for "Our Life Together" By Rev. Dr. Scott G. Sommerfeld Holy Cross, Jenison, MI

# **Introduction to Holy Manners**

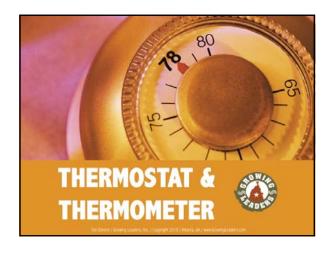
If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone.

(Romans 12:18)

# **Introduction to Holy Manners**

Healthy Relationships
Don't Happen by Accident

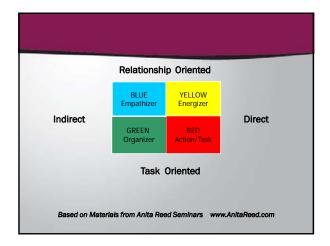
(the Holy Cross Story)



Introduction to Holy Manners	
3-Dimensional Generosity	
	_ Generosity
	_ Generosity
	_ Generosity
3-Dimensional Gener	_ Generosity _ Generosity

Introduction to Holy Manners		
3-Dimensional Generosity		

Introduction to Holy Manners	
3-Dimensional Generosity	
Financial Generosity	
Service Generosity	
Generosity	
Introduction to Holy Manners	
3-Dimensional Generosity	
Financial Generosity	
Service Generosity	
Relational Generosity	
Understanding Self and Others	
(and loving it ©)	





Insights from "Holy Manners: The Spiritual Politeness of Healthy Congregations"		
• Shift from Group to		
● Congregations to be		
● Obedience to the		

Insights from "Holy Manners: The Spiritual Politeness of Healthy Congregations"	
The opinious of theating congregations	
● Shift from Group to individual	
Sinit from Group to <u>marriadar</u>	
<ul><li>◆ Congregations to be</li></ul>	
• Obedience to the	
	-
Insights from "Holy Manners:	
The Spiritual Politeness of Healthy Congregations"	
● Shift from Group to individual	
Obedience to the	

# Insights from "Holy Manners: The Spiritual Politeness of Healthy Congregations"

- Shift from Group to individual
- Congregations to be different
- Obedience to the <u>unenforceable</u>

1.	Reflect on your experience with Christian
	Groups.

Describe <u>healthy behaviors</u> that seem to support healthy group life.

Describe <u>unhealthy behaviors</u> that seem to undermine healthy group life.

2. What are you and your fellow leaders/group members doing to deliberately <u>"promote"</u> healthy relationships and civil behavior in your midst?

# 3. What resources do you use to <u>train</u> and <u>inspire</u> one another to be Servant Leaders promoting healthy relationships?

- Jane Fryar, Servant Leaders, CPH, 2001
- James Hunter, The Servant, Crown Business, 1998
- James Hunter, The World's Most Powerful Leadership Principle, Crown Bus., 2004
- Tim Elmore, Habitudes (books 1-4) growingleaders.com
- Leadershipfreak.wordpress.com

Three	Princip	les for	Leaders	to Follo	W

Getting UP on the Balcony p. 41

## **Three Principles for Leaders to Follow**

Getting UP on the Balcony p. 41

This refers to mentally and emotionally stepping away from a difficult situation to see the big picture, while not getting entangled in personal issues.

# Three Principles for Leaders to Follow

Getting UP on the Balcony p. 41

This refers to mentally and emotionally stepping away from a difficult situation to see the big picture, while not getting entangled in personal issues.

It means stepping back and asking what would be best for the whole group in the long run.

Thraa	Princip	lac for	LADALA	re ta E	
			Leaue	3 10 1	

Providing a Safe Environment p.43

## **Three Principles for Leaders to Follow**

Providing a Safe Environment p.43

- Respect fosters mutual trust, which creates a "safe place" for people to express themselves.

# Three Principles for Leaders to Follow

Providing a Safe Environment p.43

- Respect fosters mutual trust, which creates a "safe place" for people to express themselves.
- When people feel safe, they do not need to hide their thoughts or concerns, but feel free to contribute their ideas to the group.

## Three Principles for Leaders to Follow

#### Providing a Safe Environment p.43

- Respect fosters mutual trust, which creates a "safe place" for people to express themselves.
- When people feel safe, they do not need to hide their thoughts or concerns, but feel free to contribute their ideas to the group.
- The persons ideas and feelings are valued and appreciated, while the group works for the common good.

<b>Three Princi</b>	ples for	Leaders	to Foll	ow
	P			

Valuing / Managing Conflict p.47

# Three Principles for Leaders to Follow

Valuing / Managing Conflict p.47

When we realize that conflict is simply "two ideas at the same place at the same time," then we understand that it is *how* we handle conflict that can <u>help</u> or <u>hurt</u> a community.

#### Three Principles for Leaders to Follow

#### Valuing / Managing Conflict p.47

When we realize that conflict is simply "two ideas at the same place at the same time," then we understand that it is *how* we handle conflict that can <u>help</u> or <u>hurt</u> a community.

If we manage conflict in a way that treats people with respect and yet keeps the good of the group in mind, then we can turn the conflict into a positive experience.

# Introducing Holy Manners for "Our Life Together"

We believe that Holy Manners will enable us to

#### better serve

- God
- our congregation
- our family
- everyone He places in our path

# Introducing Holy Manners for "Our Life Together"

#### Holy Manners are

- promises that we make to each other
- shared expectations of Christian behavior we <u>strive</u> to offer to each other.

# Introducing Holy Manners for "Our Life Together"

When practicing Holy Manners people

- feel safe
- are more likely to experience healthy relationships
- are best able to create or renew meaningful friendships

# Introducing Holy Manners for "Our Life Together"

As Children of God,

we are striving to make the following

Holy Manners a grand reality

as God continues to fill us with

His Holy Spirit and love.

# Dressing for Community: Holy Manners

Study of Colossians 3:12-17

Introduction to Holy Manners	
Peace Doesn't Happen by Accident	
	•
Introduction to Holy Manners	
If there is Peace	
it is because	
it is because	
Creating Holy Manners for	
Creating Holy Manners for "Our Life Together"	
An Interactive Community Experience	

Creating Holy Manners for "Our Life Together"	
"Guidelines for Our Work Together"	-
Creating Holy Manners for "Our Life Together"	
"Examples of Unhealthy Congregation Norms"	
	-
The Key to Holy Manners	
Gospel Motivation	-

# The Key to Holy Manners

Don't rush the process...

Discussions on Holy Manners are "Priceless"

# Creating Holy Manners for "Our Life Together"

**Assigning Topics to Groups** 

- 1. Decision Making
- 2. Information Sharing
- 3. Conflict
- 4. Complaints
- 5. Leadership
- 6. Guidelines

# Creating Holy Manners for "Our Life Together"

Create Positive Statements based on Your Topic

Post These "Best Practices"
For All to Critique

Sharing Holy Manners	
Holy Manners for	
Samples of Holy Manners for Various Groups	
Circups	
Holy Manners for Staff/Vestry	
Holy Manners for Holy Cross	
Open Forum:	
Closing Questions and Answers	

\*The process for introducing Holy Manners to your church or school can be found in the excellent book by Gilbert Rendle Behavioral Covenants in Congregations: A Handbook for Honoring Differences. Alban Institute, 1999