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The Saving Power Of Tough Love

(If you love somebody you confront them sooner than later)

(SERIES: **31 Words That Will Save Your Life** : 07 of 08)
by Dr. David Foster

"The LORD sent Nathan to David. When he came to him, he said, 'There were two men in a certain town, one rich and the other poor. The rich man had a very large number of sheep and cattle, but the poor man had nothing except one little ewe lamb he had bought. He raised it, and it grew up with him and his children. It shared his food, drank from his cup and even slept in his arms. It was like a daughter to him. 'Now a traveler came to the rich man, but the rich man refrained from taking one of his own sheep or cattle to prepare a meal for the traveler who had come to him. Instead, he took the ewe lamb that belonged to the poor man and prepared it for the one who had come to him.' David burned with anger against the man and said to Nathan, 'As surely as the LORD lives, the man who did this deserves to die! He must pay for that lamb four times over, because he did such a thing and had no pity.' Then Nathan said to David, '**YOU ARE THE MAN!** . . .'" (2 Samuel 12:1-7 NIV)

The 6 Sounds

1. The Sound Of **Adoration**; "I Love You"
2. The Sound Of **Affirmation**; "I Believe In You"
3. The Sound Of **Admiration**; "I Am Proud Of You"
4. The Sound Of **Appreciation**; "I Need You In My Life"
5. The Sound Of **Empathy**; "I'm Sorry I Don't Tell You More"
6. The Sound Of **Loyalty**; "I Will Not Let You Go"

5 Ways To Respond To A Fallen Friend

We can **should** them like a **Pharisee**.

We can **shame** them like a **legalist**.

We can **shun** them like a **hypocrite**.

We can **shoot** them like a **judge**.

We can **show** them **loyal love**.

"Brothers, if someone is caught in a sin, you who are spiritual should restore him gently. But watch yourself, or you also may be tempted. Carry each other's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ. If anyone thinks he is something when he is nothing, he deceives himself. Each one should test his own actions. Then he can take pride in himself, without comparing himself to somebody else, for each one should carry his own load."
(Galatians 6:1-5 NIV)

What Loyalty is Not

Loyalty is not **being blind**.

Loyalty is not **flattery**.

Loyalty is not **avoidance**.

Loyal love says . . .

I will not let you **slip away and sour**.

"See to it that no one misses the grace of God and that no bitter root grows up to cause trouble and defile many." (Hebrews 12:15 NIV)

I will not let you **run away and hide**.

"Where can I go from your Spirit? Where can I flee from your presence? If I go up to the heavens, you are there; if I make my bed in the depths, you are there." (Psalm 139:7-8 NIV)

I will not let you **walk away a failure**.

I will not let you **fade away into obscurity**.

I will not let you **rust away into obsolescence**.

I will not let you **trade away your birthright**.

I will not let you **sin away your freedom**.

"It is for freedom that Christ has set us free. Stand firm, then, and do not let yourselves be burdened again by a yoke of slavery." (Galatians 5 NIV)

I will not let you **give away your joy**.

"Nehemiah said, 'Go and enjoy choice food and sweet drinks, and send some to those who have nothing prepared. This day is sacred to our Lord. Do not grieve, for the joy of the LORD is your strength.'" (Nehemiah 8:10 NIV)

"I have no greater joy than to hear that my children are walking in the truth." (3 John 1:4 NIV)