

The background of the image is a surreal landscape. The bottom half features a vibrant green field of tall grass. In the center of the horizon, a single, full-canopied green tree stands alone. Above the field, the sky transitions from a light blue near the horizon to a deep, dark blue at the top, filled with numerous small, bright white stars. A large, white, fluffy cloud formation is positioned above the text, appearing to emerge from behind the white box.

POP QUIZ

1. Who empties the trash?



- A. Husband
- B. Wife
- C. Kids
- D. Whoever notices it's full

2. Can you drink from the carton?



3. Which way do you roll?



Great Expectations

- We all have them
- We always have them
- They influence how we interact
- We know when they aren't met

The image is a composite background. The top half shows a dark blue night sky filled with stars. A large, white, fluffy cloud is positioned above a white rectangular text box. The text box contains the title in a black, italicized serif font. Below the text box, a single, full-canopied green tree stands on a flat horizon line. The bottom half of the image is a vibrant green field of tall grass or crops.

*What Do We Do With
Our Expectations?*

Unmet Expectations

1. Investigate
2. Evaluate
3. Communicate

1. Investigate

- How do you know if you have unmet expectations?
 - Examine your behavior, your conversations (int. & ext.), and your emotional responses

1. Investigate

- James 4:1-2 (Matt. 15:18-20)
- 1 Cor. 10:6-13

2. Evaluate

- Principle or Preference?
 - Can I clearly identify at least one principle in Scripture that applies to this situation?

Principle or Preference?

- Kind words?

Principle or Preference?

- Kind words? – Eph. 4:29; Col. 3:8

Principle or Preference?

- Kind words? – Eph. 4:29; Col. 3:8
- Patience?

Principle or Preference?

- Kind words? – Eph. 4:29; Col. 3:8
- Patience? – 1 Thess. 5:14
- Breakfast in bed? - **X**

2. Evaluate

- If it is a Principle:
 - Am I trusting God for this?
 - His provision, His wisdom, His timing – Mark 10:28-31 (cf. Heb. 11:39-40)

2. Evaluate

- If it is a Principle:
 - Am I doing this?
 - Matt. 7:12 – “treat people the same way you want them to treat you”

2. Evaluate

- If it is a Preference:
 - Is it selfish?
 - James 4:3; Phil. 2:3-4; 1 Cor. 10:24

2. Evaluate

- If it is a Preference:
 - Is it beneficial?
 - 1 Cor. 6:12; 10:23

2. Evaluate

- If it is a Preference:
 - Is it necessary?
 - Phil. 4:10-13

2. Evaluate

- If it is a Preference:
 - Is it worth it?
 - Rom. 14-15 (14:20); 1 Cor. 9-10; 6:7-8

3. Communicate

- If it is a Principle:
 - “Are you aware...?”
 - Acts 18:24-26

3. Communicate

- If it is a Principle:
 - “Do you care...?”
 - Heb. 3:12
 - 1 Tim. 4:7-10, 15-16

3. Communicate

- If it is a Principle:
 - “Do you dare...?”
 - Col. 3:16; 1 Thess. 5:14; Gal. 2:11f

3. Communicate

- If it is a Preference:
 - Be Humble
 - Are you asking or demanding?
 - 1 Cor. 13:4-5

3. Communicate

- If it is a Preference:
 - Be Open
 - Get it out—*don't let it fester!*
 - Col. 3:19 (cf. Heb. 12:15)

3. Communicate

- If it is a Preference:
 - Be Reasonable
 - Seek peace!
 - Rom. 12:18; 14:19 (cf. 1 Cor. 6)

The Bottom Line

- Am I willing to help those around me become more like Jesus?
- Am I willing to give up my agenda for the sake of God's agenda?