

What Destroys Relationships & What Builds Them?

📖 **Romans 12:5** It's easy to get disconnected in relationships.

1 Selfishness Destroys Relationships.

A. The number one cause of conflict and of divorce. 📖 James 4:1-3

B. Why selfishness comes so easy.

- ◇ It is human nature to be selfish.
- ◇ Our culture feeds our self-centeredness. 📖 Proverbs 28:25

Selflessness Builds Them.

A. Less of me, more of you.

📖 Philippians 2:4

B. Ways to build selflessness in a small group.

- ◇ By showing up.
- ◇ By accepting new people in your group.
- ◇ By really listening to people in your group.
- ◇ By offering people your help and abilities.

C. We need to slow unselfishness in our lives. 📖 Galatians 6:7-8

2 Pride Destroys Relationships. 📖 Pro 13:10; 16:18

Humility Builds Them.

📖 1 Peter 3:8

- ◇ A basic law of relationships is: You tend to become like the people you spend time with. 📖 Philippians 2:5-7

- ◇ **Action step:** Everyday, find a way to spend some time with Jesus.

3 Insecurity Destroys Relationships.

A. Insecurity prevents intimacy. 📖 Proverbs 29:25

- ◇ We long to be close, but we also fear being close.

B. What do we fear in relationships?

- ◇ We fear exposure. 📖 Genesis 3:10
- ◇ We fear rejection.

Love Builds Relationships.

A. Love is the antidote to fear. 📖 1 John 4:18

- ◇ When we are fearful and insecure our focus is on ourselves. When we are secure in God's love and living out His purposes, our focus is on loving and serving others and fear goes out the back door.

B. Understand God's great love for you. 📖 1 John 4:15-17

4 Resentment Destroys Relationships.

A. How do you handle it when others hurt you?

- ◇ Will you allow the hurt to make you better or make you bitter?
📖 Job 5:2

B. Handling irritations before they become resentment.

- ◇ Ask God to fill you with so much love that the irritation doesn't bug you.
- ◇ You go to that person and talk to the offender personally.

Forgiveness Builds Relationships.

A. Healthy relationships require massive doses of forgiveness.

📖 Colossians 3:13

B. Why should I forgive other people?

- ◇ You have been forgiven by God.
- ◇ It's a command from the Lord.
- ◇ You're going to need more forgiveness in the future.

40
days of
community

Why We Need Each Other

Just as our bodies have many parts and each part has a special function, so it is with Christ's body. We are all parts of his one body, and each of us has different work to do. And since we are all one body in Christ, we belong to each other, and each of us needs all the others. **Romans 12:4-5**

• We need each other. We just don't realize how much we need each other because we are taught _____.

1 I Need Others to _____ with Me.

A. I need others to help me grow _____. **Col 2:6**

B. 3 reasons God wants me to walk with others to _____.

- ◇ It's _____
- ◇ It's _____
- ◇ It's _____

C. Community is God's answer to _____.

Genesis 2:18; Hebrews 10:25

2 I Need People to _____ with Me.

A. God put me here to do _____. **Eph 2:10**

B. But God doesn't want me to _____.

Philippians 2:2; Ecclesiastes 4:9

C. Community is God's answer to _____. **Gal 6:10**

3 I Need Others to _____ for Me.

A. I need people who will help me _____.

Philippians 2:4

◇ Do you have anybody looking out _____?

Hebrews 13:1

◇ Often when Satan defeats us it is because we try to _____.

Ecclesiastes 4:12

B. Community is God's answer to _____.

4 I Need Others to _____ with Me.

A. I need people to be there in the inevitable _____ of life.

◇ We were not meant to face the crises of life _____.

1 Peter 3:8

B. Community is God's answer to _____.

Romans 12:15; 1 Thessalonians 5:11

5 I Need Others to _____ with Me.

A. I have a _____ to share with the world.

John 13:35

B. Is anybody going to _____ because of you?

◇ There is no greater joy in a Christian's life than to have a part in helping someone else _____.

2 Timothy 1:7

C. Community is God's answer to _____.

Philippians 1:27