

# The Importance of Relationships

Genesis 1:26-28 (KJV)

<sup>26</sup> And God said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness: and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth.

<sup>27</sup> So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them.

<sup>28</sup> And God blessed them, and God said unto them, Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth, and subdue it: and have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over every living thing that moveth upon the earth.

Throughout our lives, we are involved with many different kinds of relationships. There relationships that involve dating, marriage, parenting, sibling, church, friendship and spiritual.

Relationships are a necessary part of living, health enjoyment and pain. **As you walk this spiritual life**, do you ever struggle in relationships with those who are not in the same place in their personal/spiritual walk as you might be?

The Bible has a great deal to say about relationships. God created us to have meaningful and fulfilling relationships. Being part of the community called "church" is not about being more religious; it's about being fully relational and helping others find the love they're longing for.

**What does the Bible have to say about relationships?** A Pharisee once asked Jesus was the greatest commandment in the Law was.

Matthew 22:37-39 (NIV) Jesus replied: "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.' This is the

first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’

**The most important thing in life is your relationships.** First, your relationship with God and secondly, your relationships with other people.

## **Five Components of a Healthy Relationship**

- **Respect:** Learning about each other and valuing what is important to the other person and themselves.
- **Honesty:** Truthfulness, about thoughts, feelings, and the direction of the relationship
- **Trust:** Vital to any relationship, confidence in someone to keep promises. (**Remember**, trust is hard to earn but easy to destroy).
- **Communication:** Communication is part listening and part speaking. Being as clear and direct as possible.
- **Connection:** We must look at our priorities from God’s perspective. Your relationships should be high on your priority list.

### **What are some of the effects of relationships?**

Often some of the effects of relationships are: Trust, vulnerability, authenticity, & transparency.

**Meaningful relationships require** work, care, conflict, accountability to achieve a higher mutual goal.

When we are in a relationships, we should be responsible and honest enough to make our relations stronger.

There should be contributions from both the sides, then your relationship will be a successful.