Prayer Meeting & Bible Study

June 12, 26 Jul 3, 10, 17, 24

11:30 am - 1:15 pm

## IN GOOD HEALTH

Join us live on Zoom

Meeting ID: 834 5430 3988

Passcode: 627132

God's Design for a Healthy You

5-WEEK BIBLE STUDY SERIES

Acts 2:42-44

Resolution - Empower - System

Rev. Larrin Robertson, Pastor-Teacher Word For Life Church Ministries

## RELATIONAL HEALTH

Guiding principles for relationships that glorify God and respects people

## LESSON OVERVIEW

- A Biblical Perspective of Relational Health
- Essential Virtues for Healthy Relationships
- Effective and Christlike Communication
- Practical Application for Relational Growth



# **A BIBLICAL** PERSPECTIVE OF RELATIONAL HEALTH

### **COLOSSIANS 3:12–14**

- 12. As God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience.
- 13. Bear with one another and, if anyone has a complaint against another, forgive each other; just as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive.
- 14. Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony.

## Explore & Explain

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#### **ROMANS 12:9–18**

<sup>9</sup> Let love be genuine; hate what is evil, hold fast to what is good; <sup>10</sup> love one another with mutual affection; outdo another in showing honor. <sup>11</sup> Do not lag in zeal; be ardent in spirit, serve the Lord. <sup>12</sup> Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer. <sup>13</sup> Contribute to the needs of the saints; extend hospitality to strangers.

<sup>14</sup> Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. <sup>15</sup> Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep. <sup>16</sup> Live in harmony with one another; do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly; do not claim to be wiser than you are. <sup>17</sup> Do not repay anyone evil for evil, but take thought for what is noble in the sight of all. <sup>18</sup> If it is possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all.

## Explore & Explain

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# THE TRANSFORMATIVE POWER OF GOD'S LOVE

#### **Transformation through Love**

God's love encourages personal transformation by promoting forgiveness and grace for others.

#### **Advancing Healing**

Forgiveness nurtured by God's love restores and heals relationships between people.

#### **Unity and Reflection**

Understanding God's love helps believers embody unity and reflect godly character in interactions.



# RELATIONSHIPS THAT REFLECT GOD'S NATURE AND MISSION

#### **Reflection of LOVE**

Healthy relationships embody God's love, showing kindness and grace in daily interactions. [Consider, Rom 16:1-16]

#### **Reflection of REDEMPTION**

Relationships model redemption by fostering forgiveness and restoration among individuals. [Eph 1 and 2, various]

#### **Reflection of RECONCILED COMMUNITY**

Relationships actively contribute to building community and motivating reconciliation in society. [Phlp 4:2-3; Phlm]



# THREE VIRTUES ESSENTIAL FOR HEALTHY RELATIONSHIPS

- Forgiveness for healing
- Humility through patience
- The love of Christ

## FORGIVENESS FOR HEALING



#### Foundation for Healing

Forgiveness serves as the essential foundation for spiritual and emotional health after conflicts or hurts. [Mt 18:15; 1 Jn 1:8-9]



#### **Restoring Relationships**

Forgiveness enables the restoration of broken relationships by removing resentment and encouraging understanding. [Acts 15:36-40 and 2 Tim 4:11]



#### **Reflecting Grace**

Forgiveness reflects Christ's grace, reminding believers to be merciful and compassionate in our daily walk. [Mt 6:12]

## PRACTICING HUMILITY AND PATIENCE

#### **Role of Humility**

Humility encourages respect, peace, service, and understanding.

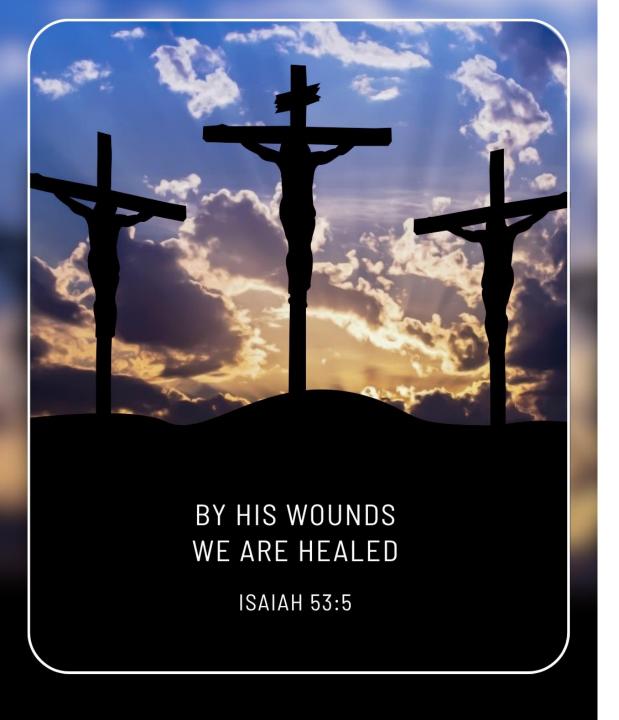
• Jn 13:3-17; Col 3:12-15

#### **Importance of Patience**

Patience allows individuals to handle challenges calmly, reducing conflicts and promoting harmony.

• Prov 19:11; Jam 1:3-4





# MODELING JESUS' LOVE IN ALL RELATIONSHIPS

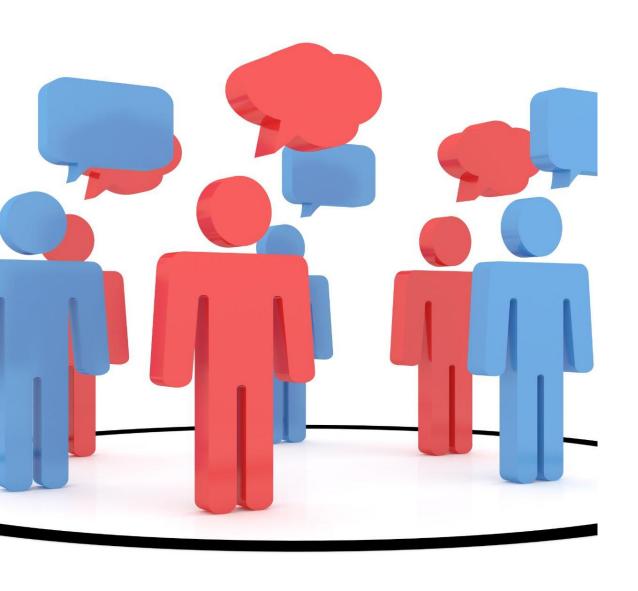
#### **Sacrificial Love Example**

Christ's sacrificial love serves as the ultimate example to inspire our relationships with others.

#### **Building Trust and Respect**

Demonstrating Christ's love builds trust, respect, and deeper connections in all relationships.

# EFFECTIVE AND CHRISTLIKE COMMUNICATION



## COMMUNICATION AS A TOOL FOR UNDERSTANDING AND GROWTH

#### **Open Communication**

Open communication encourages transparency and sharing of true thoughts and feelings to build trust.

#### **Mutual Understanding**

Honest exchanges foster mutual understanding by sharing perspectives and reducing misunderstandings.

#### Relationship Growth

Effective communication strengthens relationships by promoting empathy and connection over time.



## AVOID DOMINATION AND DEMONSTRATE MUTUAL RESPECT

#### **Avoiding Controlling Behaviors**

Effective communication steers clear of domination and controlling actions to maintain healthy relationships.

#### **Prioritizing Respect**

Respect is fundamental in communication to ensure every voice is heard and valued equally.

#### **Valuing All Voices**

Encouraging openness and inclusiveness helps all participants feel appreciated and understood.



## LISTENING ACTIVELY AND SPEAKING TRUTH IN LOVE

#### **Listen Actively**

Active listening helps build trust and shows respect in communication, reducing chances of misunderstandings due to the intent to understand.

#### **Lovingly Speak Truth**

Speaking truth in love ensures honesty and insists on kindness, respect, openness, and respectful dialogue.

# PRACTICAL APPLICATION FOR RELATIONAL GROWTH



# REGULAR RELATIONAL CHECK-INS

#### **Maintain Connection**

Regular check-ins strengthen emotional bonds and promote open communication.

#### **Early Detection**

Routine check-ins allow concerns to be addressed before they escalate, promoting relationship health.

#### **Build Accountability and Support**

Scheduled check-ins enable mutual accountability and emotional support, nurturing stronger bonds.

## STEPS FOR PRACTICING FORGIVENESS WITHIN COMMUNITY



#### **Recognize Hurt**

Acknowledging pain is the first step towards genuine forgiveness within community relationships.

#### **Choose Grace**

Forgiveness requires the conscious decision to offer grace, even when it is difficult or feels undeserved.

#### **Seek Restoration**

Working to restore trust and rebuild harmony creates paths for restored relationships after hurt.

#### **Commit to Unity**

Committing to love and unity sustains forgiveness and promotes lasting peace in the community.



## FACILITATING GROUP DISCUSSIONS TO BUILD STRONGER CONNECTIONS

#### **Encouraging Openness**

Group discussions promote openness by allowing participants to express thoughts freely and respectfully.

#### **Shared Learning**

Participants gain knowledge through exchanging perspectives, fostering a collaborative learning environment.

#### **Building Deeper Bonds**

Engaging in meaningful conversations promotes trust, making stronger interpersonal connections possible.

# CONCLUSION: BUILDING AND MAINTAINING HEALTHY RELATIONSHIPS

## **Embrace Biblical Principles**

Following biblical principles guides believers to foster relationships rooted in faith and love.

## **Cultivate Essential Virtues**

Practicing virtues like patience, kindness, and forgiveness strengthens Christ-centered connections.

## Effective Christ-like Communication

Clear communication and healthy boundaries promote respect and understanding in relationships.

#### **Practical Application**

Applying biblical principles builds relationships that glorify God and bless others.