



2-PART

SERMON SERIES



RELATIONSHIPS:

Reel

Real?

Relationships: Reel or Real?

In a world filled with mistrust and deception, is it possible to build real authentic relationships?
Learn God's intent for relationships and how Biblical principles can be practised to build real relationships.

Week 1:
Real Connections
Week 2:
Loving or Real



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Week 1: Real Connections



PART 2

Real LOVE



GOD CREATED US TO CONNECT

- a. God created us not to be alone
- b. God forms communities

HEALTHY CONNECTIONS ARE ESSENTIAL

- a. In families
- b. In church
- c. For spiritual growth



Relationships Reel or Real?

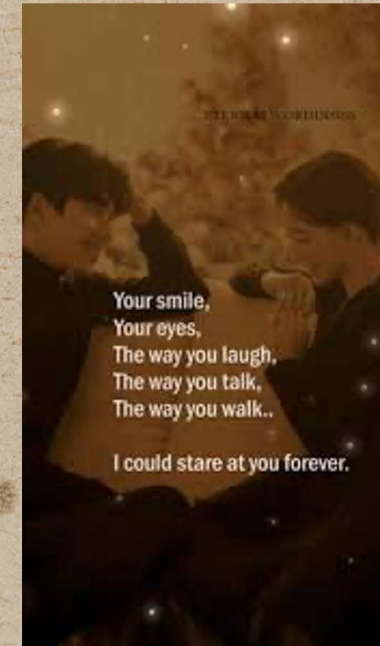
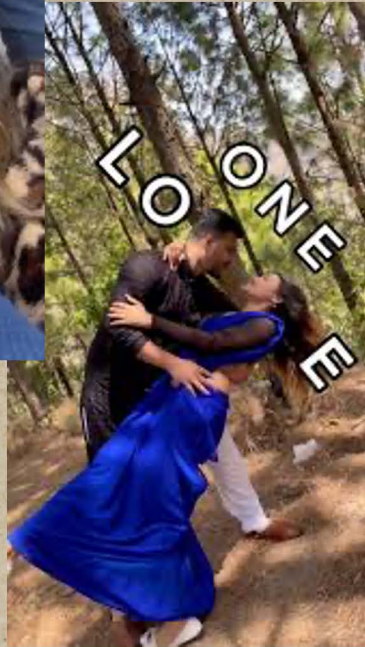
In a world filled with mistrust and deception, is it possible to build real authentic relationships?

feel supported, loved and accepted?

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REEL LOVE



1 John 4:7-12 NIV

Dear friends, let us love one another, for love comes from God. **Everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is love.** This is how God showed his love among us: He sent his one and only Son into the world that we might live through him. **This is love**: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins. Dear friends, since God so loved us, we also ought to **love one another**. No one has ever seen God; but if we love one another, God lives in us and his love is made complete in us.



memory **V**ERSE



**"A new command I give you: Love one another.
As I have loved you, so you must love one another.**

John 13:34



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ACCEPT



ACCEPT ONE ANOTHER

Romans 15:5-7 NIV

May the **God** who gives endurance and encouragement **give you the same attitude of mind toward each other** that Christ Jesus had, so that with one mind and one voice you may glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. **Accept one another**, then, **just as Christ accepted you**, in order to bring praise to God.



ACCEPT ONE ANOTHER

Proslambanó

- To receive, to take aside, to welcome.
- It is more than just tolerating someone—it means to receive them fully, lovingly, and warmly into fellowship.



ACCEPT THEM THE WAY CHRIST ACCEPTED US

- Everyone is made in the image of God
- Genesis 1:27
- Unique personalities
- Innate worth and valued by the King



ACCEPT THEM THE WAY CHRIST ACCEPTED US

- Show love regardless of what the person has done
- Christ died for us while we were yet sinners (Romans 5:8)
- Treat them with humility, gentleness and patience (Ephesians 4:2)



WHAT ACCEPTANCE IS NOT

- Does not condone sin (John 8:11)
- Does not accept demanding, toxic behavior or speech
- Does not mean that we will not be hurt.







ENGAGE



- Opposite meaning of isolate
- To get involved in the lives of others
- To show love by developing new connections and deepen existing ones



ENGAGE AS JESUS ENGAGED

Jesus and Zacchaeus
the Tax Collector
(Luke 19:1-10)



ENGAGE AS JESUS ENGAGED

What can we learn from Jesus?

- Take initiative to reach out
- People feel seen and valued when we treat them as individuals, not just labels of their past
- Step into someone else's space with love and no agenda
- Sometimes the most powerful path to transformation is grace, not confrontation
- Help people see their new identity in Christ, not just their past mistakes



WHAT ENGAGE IS NOT

- Emotional entanglement
- Excessive emotional dependency
- Saviour mentality (the need to be needed)

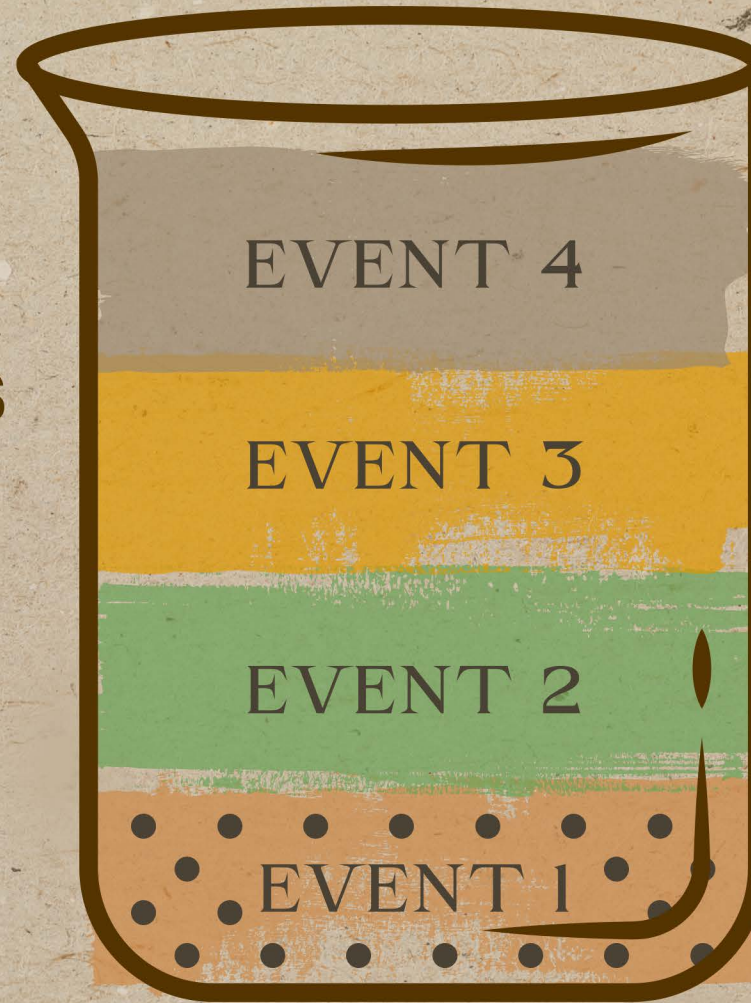




FORGIVE



How is this person's
emotional capacity
right now?





HEBREWS 12:15 NASB





HEBREWS 12:15 NASB

- Wounds distort how we see others and how we interpret situations
- Gives the enemy access to sow lies
- Wounds that are not transformed or healed get transferred to others
- Don't miss the grace of God to heal

***"Bitterness and unforgiveness is like
drinking poison and then waiting
for the other person to die."***

St Augustine



FORGIVE AS YOU HAVE BEEN FORGIVEN


MATTHEW 6:15 NIV

- Unforgiveness builds barriers between us and God
- Unforgiveness breaks fellowship with God
- Unforgiveness gives legal rights to the enemy to operate through bitterness, anger and pride

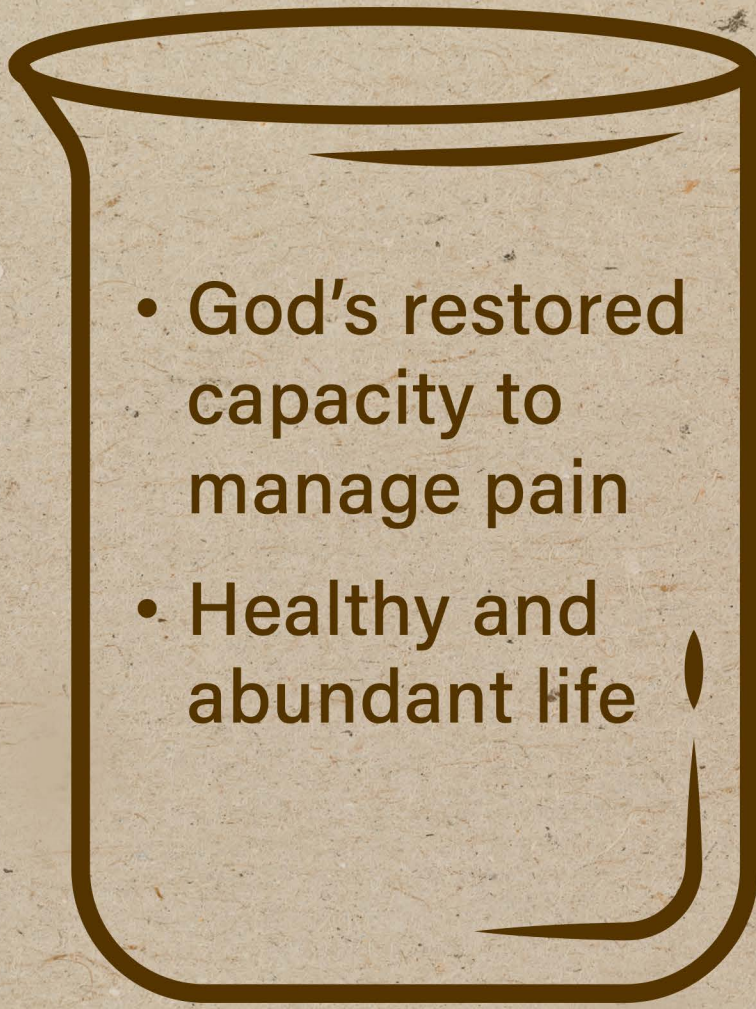



Choose forgiveness
and let God empty
the emotions





**Forgiveness is
the key to our
emotional healing**

- 
- God's restored capacity to manage pain
 - Healthy and abundant life
- 

WHAT FORGIVENESS IS NOT

- Forgiving is not forgetting what happened
- Forgiving is not saying that the other person is not guilty

ROMANS 12:19 NIV



WHAT FORGIVENESS IS NOT

- Forgiving is not forgetting what happened
- Forgiving is not saying that the other person is not guilty
- Forgiving is not putting yourself back in harmful patterns



We show love when we

ACCEPT

ENGAGE

FORGIVE

so that we can pursue deep, committed
relationships in the biblical community



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