

Understanding Grace-Based Relationships

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Broadcast Dates: 9/13/21-9/14/21

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Scripture References:

- John 1:1
- John 15:13, *NIV*
- Proverbs 12:26, *NIV*
- 1 Corinthians 15:33
- Proverbs 18:24, *NIV*
- Luke 11:5-13, *NIV*
- Ecclesiastes 4:9, 10, *NIV*
- Proverbs 27:17, *NIV*
- Proverbs 13:20, *NIV*
- James 4:8, *NIV*
- Proverbs 17:17, *NIV*

Summary:

The key relationships that matter most are the vertical connections between us and God, and the horizontal connections between us and other people. Making Jesus the foundation of every relationship enables us to be friends with God and with each other. Relationships developed on natural criteria instead of on God will crumble; we need supernatural help in this area. Prioritizing correctly and keeping God first in our lives enables Him to show us favor in all our relationships.

Notes:

1. Believers should establish relationships based on God's Word, not on the world.
2. A relationship with God puts us in touch with the supernatural and allows Him to do things that are impossible in the natural. Too many Christians think that they have a relationship with God without having a relationship with His Word.
3. We must choose our friends carefully; not everyone who wants to be our friend may qualify for *godly* friendship. It's better for us to be by ourselves than to be with friends having a negative impact on us.
4. True friends are there for us even when it's inconvenient; godly relationships are honest and authentic with no phoniness. Knowing this helps us rightly divide true friendships from toxic relationships.
5. We must choose friends who will help us grow in our relationship with Christ. If we fail to do this, we must be strong enough to be a witness instead of allowing our spiritual growth to be stunted. It's essential to set boundaries in our friendships so that they won't separate us from Jesus.

Category: relationships

Keywords: relationships, connections, relationship, friends, grace, prioritizing, favor