

RELATIONSHIP Rx

More Than A Makeover –
Sometimes Relationships Are A Fixer Upper

The Heart of the Matter

Remember your Creator in the days of your youth, before the days of trouble come and the years approach when you will say, "I find no pleasure in them"— before the sun and the light and the moon and the stars grow dark, and the clouds return after the rain; when the keepers of the house tremble, and the strong men stoop, when the grinders cease because they are few, and those looking through the windows grow dim; when the doors to the street are closed and the sound of grinding fades; when men rise up at the sound of birds, but all their songs grow faint; when men are afraid of heights and of dangers in the streets; when the almond tree blossoms and the grasshopper drags himself along and desire no longer is stirred.

ECCLESIASTES 12:1-5

"Because of the increase of wickedness, the love of most will grow cold ..."

MATTHEW 24:12

"Praise the LORD, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits — who forgives all your sins and heals all your diseases, who redeems your life from the pit and crowns you with love and compassion, who satisfies your desires with good things so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's."

PSALM 103:2-5

"O LORD, God of our fathers Abraham, Isaac and Israel, keep this desire in the hearts of your people forever, and keep their hearts loyal to you."

I CHRONICLES 29:18

"The sluggard craves and gets nothing, but the desires of the diligent are fully satisfied."

PROVERBS 13:4

From the Bible's perspective the goal and the gateway of all of our relationships is love. Love is meant to connect us with another person in genuine relationship, to bind us to that connection through trial and hardship, and to lead us to a life-giving end. Such love is not static, it has to be renewed, maintained, nurtured, protected and sometimes even healed and resurrected. Real love can enable and empower us to do seemingly impossible things, survive really hard things, repair really broken things. We might choose to love someone even though we don't like them. We might fall in love and have that love fade, we might really love and not have that love reciprocated. The pure and simple of it is that love is driven by directed desire, and love's desire is fueled by discovery. In order to find real love, repair real love, and receive real love we have to give ourselves to a path of continually discovering:

1. _____ the person in relationship
2. _____ the pleasure of relationship
3. _____ the purpose for relationship