

# #GOALS

## Week 1: Relationship Goals

When it comes to relationships, we all have expectations. What happens when those expectations are not met? It is helpful to take inventory of the relationships in our lives and consider how we can strengthen them down the road.

### Discussion Questions

1. Talk about some of the most meaningful relationships in your life right now. What makes them so meaningful?
2. What are some expectations you have of your current relationships? Are those expectations being met? If not, why do you think that is?
3. Unmet expectations can create frustration in any relationship. What are some examples of unmet expectations from relationships (past or present) in your life? Do you ever express those frustrations to God? How does that help you navigate unmet expectations?
4. It is safe to say that every relationship requires some level of forgiveness at times. If you feel comfortable sharing, recall a time when you either had to OFFER or RECEIVE forgiveness to someone in order to restore a relationship. What did it look like for you to offer or receive that forgiveness? How did forgiveness affect that relationship?
5. Consider your current relationships. Where do you hope to be one year, five years, ten years down the road? What would you identify as your primary relationship goals? (Remember to focus on establishing goals for yourself, not for others.)
6. Relationships, regardless of the context, require growth and investment.
  1. What resources have you found to be helpful in strengthening the relationships in your life?
  2. What are some steps you can take this week to invest in yourself so that you can better invest in others? Is it taking advantage of a resource you know to be particularly helpful? Do you need to offer forgiveness in order to restore a relationship? If you haven't already, consider identifying a person or couple who is further down the road than you and can invest in you relationally.

### Moving Forward

We were created to live in relationship with others. Whether a with a spouse, kids, a boyfriend/girlfriend, or a best friend, relationships require time and investment to grow. We have to be willing to extend forgiveness when our expectations are not met and receive forgiveness when we fall short of the mark. What are your relationship goals and how are you pursuing them today?