

Relatability – Purpose

Ice Breaker: Were you ever part of a relationship that never went anywhere? What happened?

If God is not the source of your purpose, then He will not be the center of your relationships (Amos 3:3)...Name one purpose for relationships in general?

What's the point of my relationships?

- *To reflect God's character – “Be imitators of God, therefore, as dearly loved children and live a life of love, just as Christ loved us and gave Himself up for us as a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.” (Eph. 5:1-2) – What is one positive way, in which you relect God's “aroma (His character)” in some relationships you have? What might be a negative way in which you do not relect His aroma?*
- *To experience God's love – “And I pray that you, being rooted and established in love, may have power, together with all the saints, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ, and to know this love that surpasses knowledge – that you may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God.” (Eph. 3:17b-19) – Who in your life has been a demonstration of God's love? How did/does that look?*
- *To bring God glory – “So whether you eat or drink or whatever you do, do it all for the glory of God.” (1 Cor. 10:31) – How much of this point truly is on your radar when it comes to your relationships? How would relationships change if this was the main factor?*

Three questions for pursuing a God-fueled purpose in relationships...

- *Am I building on the right foundation? – “Consequently, you are no longer foreigners and aliens, but fellow citizens with God's people and members of God's household, built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus Himself as the chief cornerstone...And in Him you too are being built together to become a dwelling in which God lives by His Spirit.” (Eph. 2:19-20, 22) – Name one way society builds its relationships that isn't on the foundation of Christ. What have noticed about those relationships?*
- *Am I following the right playbook? – “Blessed are they whose ways are blameless, who walk according to the law of the LORD. Blessed are they who keep His statutes and seek Him with all their heart. They do nothing wrong; they walk in His ways. You have laid down precepts that are to be fully obeyed.” (Psalm 119:1-4)*

☛ *Some Christians have relationships that look more cultural than Biblical – “You adulterous people, don't you know that friendship with the world is hatred toward God? Anyone who chooses to be a friend of the world becomes an enemy of God.” (James 4:4) –What is an example, or two, of worldly (cultural) ways/philosophies that people often times apply to relationships. What has been your observation about such ways/philosophies?*

- *Am I engaging in the right mission? – “Live such good lives among the pagans that, though they accuse you of doing wrong, they may see your good deeds and glorify God on the day He visits us.” (1 Pet. 2:12)*

In conclusion, you get one shot so don't hold back...Whatever your hand finds to do, do it with all your might, for in the grave, where you are going, there is neither working nor planning nor knowledge nor wisdom. (Eccl. 9:10) - With whom and how do you want to add more purpose to your relationships? Pray as a group for the boldness to apply one thing that stuck out to you from this sermon and study.