

EXCELLENT RELATIONSHIPS



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“Four of the Ten Commandments deal with our relationship to God while the other six deal with our relationships with people. But all ten are about relationships.” *Rick Warren –Pastor & Author of “The Purpose driven life.”*

EXCELLENT RELATIONSHIPS



- Five Relationship Principles
 - The Faithfulness Principle

THE FAITHFULNESS PRINCIPLE



- Faithfulness
 - The glue that holds the relationship together
 - “Hey, I’m in this with you for the long haul.”
 - Reliable & Trustworthy
 - Through Thick and Thin
 - “I’m not going anywhere. I’m here for you.”

THE FAITHFULNESS PRINCIPLE



- Faithfulness
 - Builds a foundation of trust
 - Has you back no matter what
 - Consistent, Keeping Promises
 - Showing up when it matters.
 - Not just Physically. Emotionally & Mentally.
 - The steady beat in the background of a song.

THE FAITHFULNESS PRINCIPLE



- In relationships, faithfulness provides
 - Stability & Security
 - Deeper connections
 - Unbreakable bonds

THE FAITHFULNESS PRINCIPLE

Psalms 133:1-3 “How good and pleasant it is when brothers live together in unity! It is like precious oil poured on the head, running down on the beard, running down on Aaron’s beard, down upon the collar of his robes. It is as if the dew of Hermon were falling on Mt. Zion. For there the Lord bestows His blessing, even life forever more.”

THE FAITHFULNESS PRINCIPLE



II Timothy 2:2 “And the things that you have heard from me among many witnesses, commit these to faithful men who will be able to teach others also.”

THE FAITHFULNESS PRINCIPLE



I Corinthians 13:7 “If you love someone, you will be loyal to him no matter what the cost. You will always believe in him, always expect the best of him, and always stand your ground in defending him.”

THE FAITHFULNESS PRINCIPLE



My Commitment:

Faithfulness to our relationship outweighs the importance of any offense between us. I will not allow any problem to override the principles by which we live.

THE FAITHFULNESS PRINCIPLE



Question:

Is this problem a threat to our relationship?

THE FINAL WORD PRINCIPLE



- We believe God's Word.
- We should believe the words of friends.
- If we respect the words we hear from each other, we do not need constant assurance of the well being of the relationship.
- We can be confident that all is well because we have not been told otherwise.

THE FINAL WORD PRINCIPLE



Ephesians 4:15 “Instead, speaking the truth in love, we will in all things grow up into Him, who is the Head, that is Christ.”

THE FINAL WORD PRINCIPLE



Proverbs 14:5

“A truthful witness does not deceive.”

THE FINAL WORD PRINCIPLE



I Corinthians 13:7 “If you love someone, you will be loyal to him no matter what the cost. You will always believe in him, always expect the best of him, and always stand your ground in defending him.”

THE FINAL WORD PRINCIPLE



My Commitment:

I will believe and act upon the last words we spoke concerning our relationship and live as if you will do the same. If anything changes on my part, I will inform you.

Question:

Did you forget or disregard what we last spoke to one another concerning our relationship?

THE FRIENDSHIP PRINCIPLE



God is the only one who knows what is in a man's heart. One should not expect that a friend discerns what is happening inside him. Therefore, the need to be understood is met in friends by communicating with one another.

THE FRIENDSHIP PRINCIPLE



Effective Communication

- Is the bridge that connects hearts and minds.
- Not just talking
- Truly listening
- Understanding
- Expressing oneself in a way that fosters connection.

THE FRIENDSHIP PRINCIPLE



Good Communication

- Deepens Bonds
- Allows you to express joy, sadness, excitement, and vulnerability.

THE FRIENDSHIP PRINCIPLE



1 John 1:7 “But if we walk in the light, as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another...”

THE FRIENDSHIP PRINCIPLE



Proverbs 14:25 “A truthful witness saves lives,
but a false witness is deceitful.”

THE FRIENDSHIP PRINCIPLE



My Commitment:

I will not expect you to interpret my actions or recognize my heart's condition. It is my responsibility to approach you if I need your help.

Question:

Are you offended that I did not recognize you were troubled?

THE FOUR DAY PRINCIPLE



Resolving conflicts preserves friendship. Offenses between friends are spiritually, emotionally, and physically harmful. Bringing issues to a closure within a reasonable amount of time maintains the health of a relationship.

THE FOUR DAY PRINCIPLE



James 3:17-18 “But the wisdom that comes from heaven is first of all pure, then peace-loving, considerate, submissive, full of mercy and good fruit, impartial and sincere. Peacemakers who sow in peace raise a harvest of righteousness.”

THE FOUR DAY PRINCIPLE



Matthew 5:23-24 “Therefore, if you are offering your gift at the altar and there remember that your brother has something against you, leave your gift there in front of the altar. First go and be reconciled to your brother, and then come and offer your gift.”

THE FOUR DAY PRINCIPLE



My Commitment

I will not allow any problem I have with you go unresolved for more than four days. If, within that length of time, I have not come to peace about the issue, I will communicate with you.

THE FOUR DAY PRINCIPLE



Question

How long have you been troubled about this problem?

THE FIRST WORD PRINCIPLE



Jesus instructed us to go to an offending brother privately. When we obey Jesus, we are able to reconcile with our brother much more easily than if we had revealed the issue to others before seeking him. This also prevents the potential of others taking up a secondary offensive.

THE FIRST WORD PRINCIPLE



Matthew 18:15 “If your brother sins against you, go and show him first his fault, just between the two of you.”

THE FIRST WORD PRINCIPLE



James 3:5 Likewise, the tongue is a small part of the body, but it makes great boasts. Consider what a great forest is set on fire by a small spark.”

THE FIRST WORD PRINCIPLE



My Commitment:

You will be the first person to know about any problem I have with you.

Question

Have you spoken to anyone else about this offense?

RECAP



- Faithfulness - Faithfulness to our relationship outweighs the importance of any offense between us. I will not allow any problem to override the principles by which we live.
- Final Word - I will believe and act upon the last words we spoke concerning our relationship and live as if you will do the same. If anything changes on my part, I will inform you.

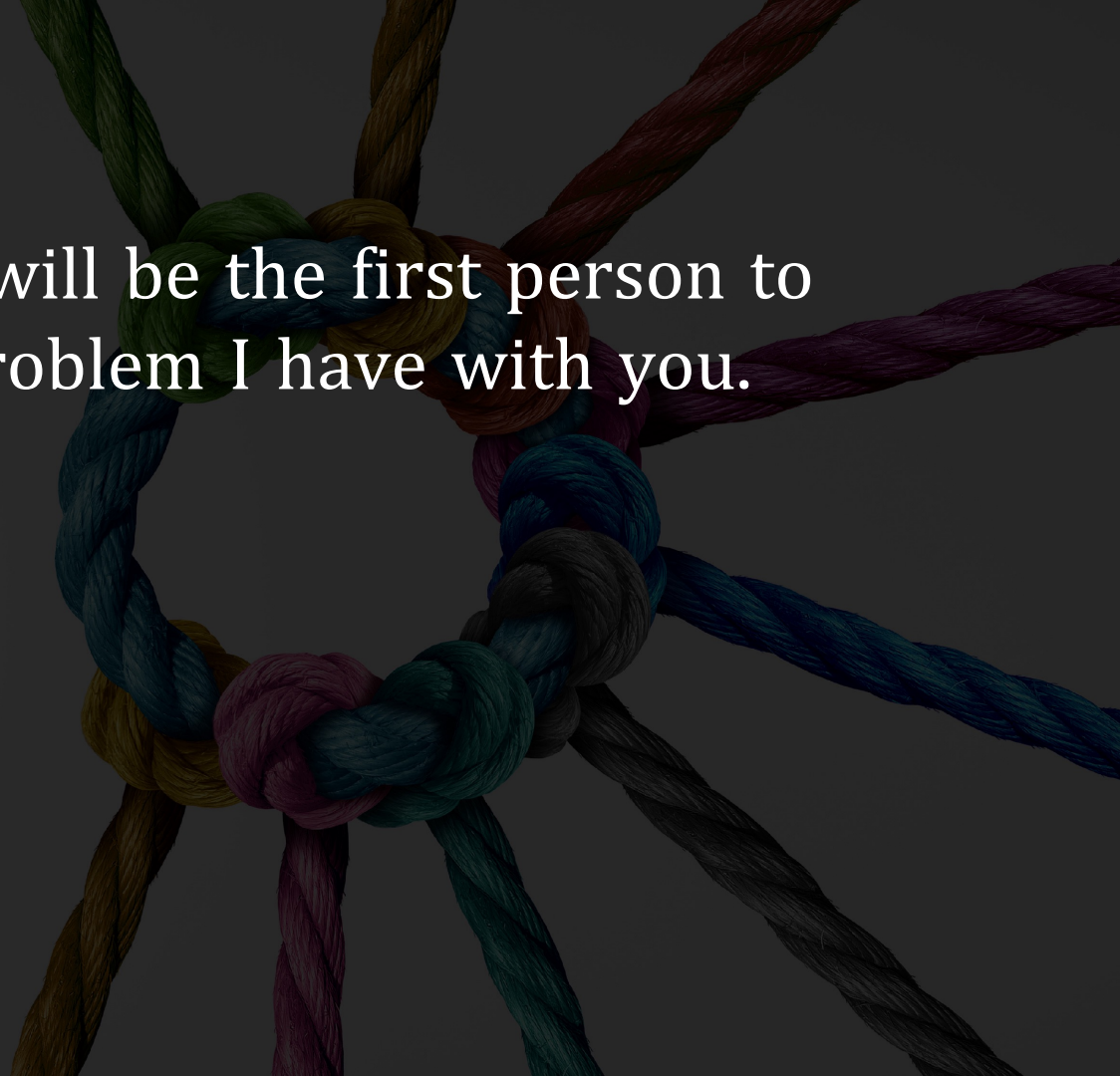
RECAP



- Friendship - I will not expect you to interpret my actions or recognize my heart's condition. It is my responsibility to approach you if I need your help.
- Four day - I will not allow any problem I have with you go unresolved for more than four days. If, within that length of time, I have not come to peace about the issue, I will communicate with you.

RECAP

- First Word - You will be the first person to know about any problem I have with you.



EXCELLENT RELATIONSHIPS

