

**Relationship Status**  
February 4, 2024  
Lead Pastor Dr. Phil Willingham

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Isaiah 54:4-6 (NAS) *“Fear not, for you will not be put to shame; neither feel humiliated, for you will not be disgraced; but you will forget the shame of your youth, and the reproach of your widowhood you will remember no more. “For your husband is your maker, whose name is the LORD of hosts; and your Redeemer is the Holy One of Israel, who is called the God of all the earth. “For the LORD has called you, like a wife forsaken and grieved in spirit, even like a wife of {one's} youth when she is rejected,” says your God.”*

• **GOD CREATED US FOR THRIVING RELATIONSHIPS...**

Jeremiah 29:11 (NIV) *“For I know the plans I have for you,” declares the LORD, “plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.”*

Deuteronomy 7:9 (NLT) *“Understand, therefore, that the LORD your God is indeed God. He is the faithful God who keeps his covenant for a thousand generations and lavishes his unfailing love on those who love him and obey his commands.”*

Psalms 139:14-17 (NIV) *“I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; your works are wonderful, I know that full well. 15 My frame was not hidden from you when I was made in the secret place. When I was woven together in the depths of the earth, 16 your eyes saw my unformed body. All the days ordained for me were written in your book before one of them came to be. 17 How precious to me are your thoughts, O God! How vast is the sum of them!”*

**I. REJECTION IS ONE OF THE DEEPEST WOUNDS A PERSON CAN RECEIVE.**

Proverbs 18:14 (NIV) *“A man's spirit sustains him in sickness, but a Crushed (WOUNDED, BROKEN) spirit who can bear?”*

**II. WITH FEELINGS OF REJECTION, WE BECOME THE...**

1. SEEKER
2. SHATTERED
3. SMOTHER
4. ANGRY
5. DETACHED
6. DRIVEN

Psalms 34:18 (NIV) *“The LORD is close to the brokenhearted and saves those who are crushed in spirit.”*

Luke 4:18 (KJV) *“The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he hath anointed me to preach the gospel to the poor; he hath sent me to heal the brokenhearted, to preach deliverance to the captives, and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty them that are bruised,”*

**III. FOUR BASIC EMOTIONAL NEEDS THAT THRIVING RELATIONSHIPS DISPLAY:**

1. UNCONDITIONAL LOVE
2. SECURITY
3. PRAISE
4. PURPOSE

**ACTION POINTS**

1. Be KIND: Have constant and honest communication.
2. Be COMMITTED to work through difficulties and disagreements.
3. KEEP A sense of Humor,
4. Be GENEROUS with YOUR Emotional support, validation, and Compliments.
5. SHARE goals and dreams that resonate with both of you.
6. DISPLAY Compassion, acceptance, and forgiveness.
7. Be able to ADMIT mistakes and talk about them.