

SELECTED SCRIPTURES

HERE & NOW IN MY RELATIONSHIPS

READ PHILIPPIANS 1:27 AND MATTHEW 9:35-38

- What do these verses say about the importance of Christians partnership and friendship in the Gospel?
- How does unity among Christians help the church and advance the Gospel to the lost?

READ LUKE 19:1-10; JOHN 13

- As you read these passages, consider how Jesus treated both believers and unbelievers. What can we learn from Jesus in regards to our relationships with Christians and non-Christians.

JESUS CARED DEEPLY

- How did Jesus show compassion to people? - Why is compassion a staple in all relationships?

JESUS CONNECTED GENUINELY

- Jesus always connected with people in an authentic way. How did He manage to do this with all sorts of different people?
- For relationships to be meaningful they must be genuine. How can Christians genuinely connect with both believers and unbelievers?

JESUS COMMUNICATED HONESTLY

- Jesus never held back from sharing the truth with unbelievers and His followers. Why was it essential for Him to tell people the truth?
- We often talk about a balance of grace and truth when dealing with people. Why are both needed in all relationships?

JESUS CONFRONTED PURPOSEFULLY

- Everything Jesus did, He did with a purpose. He often said hard things: to those far from Him; to those who pretended to be close to Him; and to those who actually followed Him, all in an effort to confront their heart. What are some examples of this and why is confronting the heart essential?
- In relationships, why is getting to the heart often the heart of the issue?

JESUS CHANGED PEOPLE COMPLETELY

- There was no middle ground with Jesus. You were either for Him or against Him, but every person He encountered left changed in some way. Why was/is Jesus the game changer in all things?
- As Christians, only Jesus can change a life. How can we be God's ambassador to both believers and non-believers?

DISCUSS THIS QUOTE: "Christians should represent Christ to the lost and reflect Christ to the saved."

- Consider Philippians 2:3-8; Ephesians 4:25-32