

Elements



Re
Relationship

Week 3 - Relationship

February 25, 2024

Hebrews 12:12-17 - *“Therefore lift your drooping hands and strengthen your weak knees, and make straight paths for your feet, so that what is lame may not be put out of joint but rather be healed. Strive for peace with everyone, and for the holiness without which no one will see the Lord. See to it that no one fails to obtain the grace of God; that no “root of bitterness” springs up and causes trouble, and by it many become defiled; that no one is sexually immoral or unholy like Esau, who sold his birthright for a single meal. For you know that afterward, when he desired to inherit the blessing, he was rejected, for he found no chance to repent, though he sought it with tears.”*

Relationship - Walking through life together

Acts 2:42 - All who believed were *together*

A Few Principles of Relationship

Strengthen one another (Heb. 12:12, Isa 35:1-4)

- We ought not to let those that are weak to continue in their weakness.
- *Strengthen the weak hands, and make firm the feeble knees. Say to those who have an anxious heart, “Be strong; fear not! Behold, your God will come with vengeance, with the recompense of God. He will come and save you.”* - Isaiah 35:3-4
- If we go together, we can go much further.

Model *righteous living* for one another (Heb. 12:13, Phil. 3:12-19)

- We need to live so that others can follow close behind us.
- *Brothers, join in imitating me, and keep your eyes on those who walk according to the example you have in us.* - Philippians 3:17
- Mature believers should model righteous living for others.
- This requires accountability, honesty, faithfulness, hard work.

Pursue *peace* with one another (Heb. 12:14, Matt. 5:8-9)

- *As far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone.* - Romans 12:18
- *Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God. Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God.* - Matthew 5:9
- God doesn't call us to just be peacekeepers, but peacemakers.
- We should pursue peace relentlessly, which means getting into each others lives.

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Take **responsibility** for one another (Heb. 12:15-17, Deut. 29:10-21)

- We should be confronting behaviors and challenging people toward Godly behavior.
- We should be taking the specks out of each others eyes, as long as we take the log out of our own eyes first (Matthew 7:3-5).
- We can't change people's hearts, but we can nudge people in the right direction.
- *Beware lest there be among you a man or woman or clan or tribe whose heart is turning away today from the Lord our God to go and serve the gods of those nations.* - Deuteronomy 29:10-20

Our Path Into Relationship

Get in the **know**

- If you are not connected to others, take that step today.
- Consider membership as a next step.

Being **known**

- Step out and extend yourself to others first.
- Don't wait for others to reach out and reciprocate.
- There's joy in being known.

Knowing

- Stop talking, ask questions and listen.
- It's not possible to know every single person in the church, so we need to break this up into smaller units.

Your Plan

What practical step will you take **today** to prioritize the element of relationship in your walk with Christ?