





Why a Relationship Series?

Being in right relationship with God requires me to be in right relationship with you, and you with me.

In God's family, poor earthly relationships are <u>not</u> an option.

"There are no traffic jams on the extra mile." ZIG ZIGLAR

The more I give grace to people, the more God gives me grace to give. I tap into the artesian well of divine grace—and I become the conduit.

God's law was not given to diminish our freedom, but rather to distinguish us from all other people on earth as God's very own

The law that both consecrates us as God's own people and cultivates his presence among us more than any other is law of right relationships.

Right Relationship

THE LORD'S PRAYER:

If I don't forgive others, God won't forgive me.

THE HIGH PRIESTLY PRAYER OF JESUS:

As Jesus is one with the Father, I must be one with my fellow believers.

THE GREAT COMMANDMENT:

To love God, I must love my neighbor as myself.

THE PARABLE OF THE GOOD SAMARITAN:

I must show loving-kindness to my neighbor, who is anyone within my power to help.

Right Relationship

My relationship with my neighbor is as important to God as my relationship with him.

Leviticus 6:1-7

"Suppose one of you sins against your neighbor and is unfaithful to the Lord: you cheat in a deal involving a security deposit, or steal or commit fraud, or find lost property and lie about it, or lie while swearing to tell the truth, or commit any other such sin. If you have sinned in any of these ways, you are guilty. You must give back whatever you stole, or the money you extorted, or the security deposit, or the lost property you found, or anything obtained by swearing falsely.

Leviticus 6:1-7

You must make restitution by paying the full price plus an additional 20 percent to the person you harmed. On the same day you must present a guilt offering to the Lord: bring to the priest your own ram with no defects, or you may buy one of equal value. Through this, the priest will purify you before the Lord, making you right with him, and you will be forgiven for any of these sins you have committed."

If I sin against my neighbor, I have been unfaithful to God!

Nothing is more important to God than *shalom* in the family of mankind, especially the household of faith.

I cannot injure a human relationship without damaging my heavenly relationship with the Father of all.

I cannot refuse to forgive, or feel no obligation to participate in repairing a broken relationship, without being guilty of unfaithfulness to God

MATTHEW 6:14-15

"If you forgive those who sin against you, your heavenly Father will forgive you. But if you refuse to forgive others, your Father will not forgive your sins."

MATTHEW 5:22-24, GN

"But I tell you...if you call anyone a worthless fool you will be in danger of going to the fire of hell. So if you are about to offer your gift to God and you remember that your brother or sister has something against you, leave your gift and go at once to make peace with them, then come back and offer your gift to God."

ROMANS 12:18

"As far as it is possible, as much as it depends on you, make and keep things right with everyone."

ROMANS 12:1-2

"I urge you then, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God—this is your true and proper worship. Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is —his good, pleasing and perfect will." **The Law of Right Relationship** *in Romans* My pleasing sacrifice of worship to God (Romans 12:1-2) is contingent upon living out my practical sacrifice of faith with people (Romans 12:3-21).

MY "ACT AS IF"

Í



- **I will pray** for my EGR by a factor of 10:1 more than I gripe about them.
- 2 I will move into an intentional relationship with my EGR.
- 3 I will serve my EGR in a way that communicates my love in their language.

66 WHY ?? SECOND MILE RELATIONSHIPS?

"That you may be children of your Father in heaven...Be perfect, therefore, as your heavenly Father is perfect."

MATTHEW 5:45, 47