



Week #1: Our Relationships

You're no longer wandering exiles. This kingdom of faith is now your home country. You're no longer strangers or outsiders. You belong here, with as much right to the name Christian as anyone. God is building a home.

Ephesians 2:19b-20a (MSG)

God said, "It's not good for the Man to be alone; I'll make him a helper, a companion."

Genesis 2:18 (MSG)

God spoke: "Let us make human beings in our image, make them reflecting our nature..."

Genesis 1:26a (MSG)

When we engage in real relationships:

We can live as God _____ us to live.

We can love as Jesus _____ us to love.

They followed a daily discipline of worship in the Temple followed by meals at home, every meal a celebration, exuberant and joyful, as they praised God. People in general liked what they saw. Every day their number grew as God added those who were saved.

Acts 2:46-47 (MSG)

Let's see how inventive we can be in encouraging love and helping out, not avoiding worshiping together as some do but spurring each other on, especially as we see the big Day approaching.

Hebrews 10:24-25 (MSG)

We can _____ we're hoping for.

Watch what God does, and then you do it, like children who learn proper behavior from their parents. Mostly what God does is love you. Keep company with him and learn a life of love. Observe how Christ loved us. His love was not cautious but extravagant. He didn't love in order to get something from us but to give everything of himself to us. Love like that.

Ephesians 5:1-2 (MSG)

Discussion questions:

1. What tends to get in the way of real relationships for you? What makes meaningful connection easier or more difficult in this season of your life?
2. Of the three points in the message, “We can live as God created us to live,” “We can love as Jesus called us to love,” and “We can be the cure we’re hoping for,” which one stands out to you most right now? Why?
3. Who is one person you can intentionally notice, encourage, invite, reach out to, or make space for this week?

Recommended resources:

[Made for People](#), by Justin Whitmel Earley

[Find Your People](#), by Jennie Allen

[Life Together](#), by Dietrich Bonhoeffer

(MSG) The Message

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