

## Relationships That Reveal Christ - Ray Flores, November 30, 2025

### 1. GOD CREATED RELATIONSHIPS FOR GOOD

Genesis 2:18b NIV . . . *"It is not good for the man to be alone. . . ."*

God designed relationships to be life-giving, holy, and good. But when sin entered the world, Satan corrupted what God intended for blessing. Relationships reveal whether we walk in the flesh or by the Spirit.

Matthew 7:15–20 NIV True and False Prophets Jesus, *" . . . By their fruit you will recognize them."* (Matthew 7: 20 NIV)

### 2. THE FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT REVEALS CHRIST IN US

Galatians 5:22–23a NIV *"But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. . . ."*

Reflection Questions: • Am I patient? • Am I walking in love? • Do I forgive quickly? • Do people encounter Christ in me?

2 Corinthians 12:9b NIV . . . *"My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness."*

### 3. RELATIONSHIPS REVEAL THE SPIRIT OR THE FLESH

A. Friendships Healthy: David & Jonathan--**1 Samuel 18–20**; Unhealthy: Amnon & Jonadab -- **2 Samuel 13:3–5**

Question: Do my friends pull me toward Christ or toward temptation?

B. Men & Women Healthy: Boaz & Ruth – **Ruth 2–4**; Unhealthy: Samson & Delilah – **Judges 16**

Question: Do I honor others as Jesus would?

C. Marriage Healthy: Priscilla & Aquila--**Acts 18**; Unhealthy: Ahab & Jezebel--**1 Kings 16–21**

Question: Do we bring out God's best in each other?

### 4. WHAT HINDERS US FROM LIVING RIGHTEOUSLY?

• The Flesh--Galatians 5:17 • Unrenewed thinking--Romans 12:2 • Lack of surrender  
• Unforgiveness--Matthew 6:15; Matthew 18:21–22 • Prayerlessness • Neglect of God's Word--  
**Psalm 119:11** • Wrong relationships--Proverbs 13:20 • Unconfessed sin • Pride--James 4:6  
These choke out the fruit of the Spirit and feed the works of the flesh -- Galatians 5:19–21

### 5. FRUIT COMES FROM ABIDING – NOT TRYING HARDER

John 15:4a, c NIV *"Remain in me . . . No branch can bear fruit by itself."*

Fruit grows by connection, not human effort. Abide through: prayer, Scripture, repentance, obedience, surrender.

### 6. YOUR RELATIONSHIPS ARE A TESTIMONY

John 13:35 NIV *"By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another."*

### 7. THE SPIRIT CAN RESTORE WHAT IS BROKEN

God restored: • Joseph & his brothers – **Genesis 38,41–45** • David & Saul's family--**2 Samuel 9–21** •  
The prodigal son & his father – **Luke 15:11–32**

Nothing is beyond the Spirit's healing if we walk by the Spirit and not by the flesh.

Today, you are invited to: • Surrender every relationship • Let the Spirit lead • Crucify the flesh •  
Abide in Christ. Your relationships can become your greatest testimony.