



REAL RELATIONSHIPS: “As Yourself”

Good relationships don’t begin with others.

Matthew 22:36-40 (NIV) “Teacher, which is the greatest commandment in the Law?”
³⁷ Jesus replied: “Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.’ ³⁸ This is the first and greatest commandment. ³⁹ And the second is like it: ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’ ⁴⁰ All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments.”

“Would I want you to take care of me the way you take care of you?”

1. Do you think you’re high maintenance?

- **High-maintenance:** “needing a lot of work to keep in good condition.”
 - **Psalm 139:13-14 (NLT)** You made all the delicate, inner parts of my body and knit me together in my mother’s womb ¹⁴ Thank you for making me so wonderfully complex! Your workmanship is marvelous—how well I know it.
 - **Acts 17:24-27 (NLT)** “He is the God who made the world and everything in it. Since he is Lord of heaven and earth, he doesn’t live in man-made temples, ²⁵ and human hands can’t serve his needs—for he has no needs. He himself gives life and breath to everything, and he satisfies every need.
 - **Matthew 6:7-9 (NLT)** “When you pray, don’t babble on and on as the Gentiles do. They think their prayers are answered merely by repeating their words again and again. ⁸ Don’t be like them, for your Father knows exactly what you need even before you ask him!
 - **Philippians 4:6-7 (NLT)** Don’t worry about anything; instead, pray about everything. Tell God what you need, and thank him for all he has done. ⁷ Then you will experience God’s peace, which exceeds anything we can understand. His peace will guard your hearts and minds as you live in Christ Jesus.
- The more you realize you are needy by design, the more you will understand that God wants to be the one who meet your needs.



2. Do you have a relational rhythm?

- Our life revolves around our calendar instead of our Creator.
- **Matthew 6:33 (NLT)** Seek the Kingdom of God above all else, and live righteously, and he will give you everything you need.
- Our relationship with God determines how we prioritize and value others.
- **Rhythm:** If you don’t live on beat, life will beat you up!
 - **Busyness** – Solution: Sabbath – Gen. 2:2-3 (NLT)
 - **Isolation** – Solution: Small Group – Heb. 10:24-25 (NLT)
 - **Fear** – Solution: Love – 1 Jn. 4:18-19 (MSG)
 - It’s the “rests” that define the music.

3. Do you understand what God is asking of you?

- **Genesis 3:2 (NIV)** He said to the woman, “Did God really say, ‘You must not eat from any tree in the garden’?”
- **Genesis 3:8-9 (NIV)** Then the man and his wife heard the sound of the Lord God as he was walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and they hid from the Lord God among the trees of the garden. ⁹ But the Lord God called to the man, “Where are you?” ¹⁰ He answered, “I heard you in the garden, and I was afraid because I was naked; so I hid.”
- **What is the condition of your soul?**

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| <u>Spiritual</u> needs | <u>Emotional</u> needs |
| <u>Physical</u> needs | <u>Relational</u> needs |
| <u>Financial</u> needs | <u>Professional</u> needs |