

Standing On The Word

with Pastor Jacquie

Lesson Seven: How To Build Christian Relationships

October 11, 2026

LESSON VII

Week 7

I. How To Build Christian Relationships

OBJECTIVE: To gain understanding in how to build Christian Relationships.

DEFINITION

A Christian relationship is a bond in which the participants exercise the character qualities of Jesus Christ, such as unconditional love, kindness, forgiveness, patience, humility, honesty and righteousness.

DIFFERENCES BETWEEN SECULAR AND CHRISTIAN RELATIONSHIPS

Secular Relationship	Christian Relationships
Self-Serving	Serving (Matt. 20:26 - 29; Phil. 2:3,4)
Places self-first	Places God first (Matt. 6:33)
Is accountable to self	Is accountable to God and brethren (Col. 1:28)
Impatient	Patient (I Cor. 13:4)
Jealous	Not Jealous (I Cor. 13:4)
Boastful	Humble (Phil. 2:5-14)
Arrogant; What can I get out of the relationship?	What can I give? (I Cor. 13:4,5; I Jn. 4:7,8)
Unforgiving. Holds grudges. 6:14,15)	Forgiving. Forgives. (I Cor. 13:4,5; Matt. 6:14,15)
Rejoices in unrighteousness.	Rejoices in the Truth. (I Cor. 13:4 - 6)

Easily shaken and/or broken

Endures. (I Cor. 13:4 - 7)

The essence and foundation of Christian relationships is unconditional love (Matt. 22:35-40; I Cor. 13:4 - 13; John 14:15; I John 4:20 - 21; I John 5:2 - 3).

WHY ARE CHRISTIAN RELATIONSHIPS IMPORTANT?

For individual spiritual growth and maturity. to increase in Christ-likeness. To perfect our capacity to love God and man.

Love one another. John 15:12

Restore one another. Galatians 6:1

Bear one another's burdens. Galatians 6:2

Confess our sins to one another. James 5:16

Pray for one another. Colossians 3:12

Admonish and teach one another. Colossians 3:16

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HOW TO BUILD RELATIONSHIPS

Love people. Treat love as a verb and "act" on it.

Constantly look for ways to affirm others positively and build them up instead of being critical and tearing them down.

Forgive people who have wronged you.

1. What is love? _____ (Rom. 5:8; I Cor. 13: 4-13).

Handwritten response: "remains constant in spite of obstacles"

2. Why is love so important in our relationship with God and others.

3. Is love a feeling? _____

Handwritten notes: "gift" and "word [deep affection + warm feelings]"

4. How can we show our love for God? _____ (John 14:15)

5. How can we show our love for friends? _____ (John 15:13)

6. How can we show our love for others? _____ (Gal. 5:13; Matt. 28:20).

7. Do you believe that sexual relationships are intended only for the marriage relationship between a man and a woman? (I Cor. 6:13b, 16 - 20; Gal. 5:19; Romans 1:24 - 32; Lev. 18: 22, 20:13).

WHAT THINGS (ATTITUDES, BEHAVIORS, THOUGHT-PATTERNS, ETC.) NEED TO BE PERFECTED IN YOUR LIFE SO THAT YOU MAY HAVE, MAINTAIN AND ENJOY MORE SPIRIT-FILLED RELATIONSHIPS?

. FINDING YOUR PLACE IN MINISTRY (I Cor. 12: 12 - 31)

OBJECTIVE: For understanding of how the Holy Spirit empowers each of us to carry out God's plan of redemption and salvation through His son, Jesus Christ. When we are saved, we become servants for Christ and He equips us for Ministry.

MEMORY VERSE

As every man hath received the gift, even so minister the same one to another, as good stewards of the manifold grace of God.

The Three (3) chapters known as the “Gift” chapters are:

Romans 12; 1 Corinthians 12; and Ephesians 4.

Understanding Ministry/Gifts And Where We Fit

1 Corinthians 12:12-13

The Apostle Paul compares the Body of Christ (all believers) to the human body. Each member is dependent on the other. No member is more or less important than the other. Unity is the key factor. “Though we are many members, we are of one body.”

Romans 12:1-2

“We are to present our bodies as a living sacrifice.” We are trained to carry out God’s agenda in the world we live in.

Romans 12:3-8

God gives gifts according to His grace. We are not to get puffed up in our ministries but operate in them for God's glory, not ours. We are unique in our gifts, personalities, and abilities and should use them according to our faith.

If we love children, we should direct our efforts toward working in the youth ministries. If the Lord has delivered you from substance abuse, you might direct your attention to the Recovery Ministry. There are many areas where you can use your unique gifts. Ask where the need is greatest, and pray for the Lord to show you where He would have you to be.

Ephesians 4: 1 - 4

We should always be aware that we are God's chosen people and walk worthy of that calling. Our lives should be lived in such a way that it ministers to all those who see and know us.

We should endeavor to keep the unity of the Spirit. We need to understand that it is the same Spirit living in us and that bonds us together. That same Spirit gives us gifts to proclaim Jesus Christ as Lord and Head of the Church.

Ephesians 4:11

“He called some to be Apostles, Prophets, Evangelists, Pastors, and Teachers (Sometimes known as the fivefold ministry gifts).

Discipleship-A Lifestyle

Jesus said in John 8: 31 - 32, "If you continue in my word, then are you my disciples indeed; and you shall know the truth and the truth shall set you free." As we follow Christ, we must continue to study and grow in God's word. We then take on the same responsibilities as disciples, spreading the Gospel.

Acts 1:8 tell us that Jesus told His disciples: "And you shall be my witnesses...in Jerusalem, Samaria, Judea, and the uttermost parts of the world." We too are to be witnesses of the "Good News" of God's plan of salvation to our worlds...our homes, schools, jobs, families, communities, any place we might be.

IDENTIFYING YOUR MINISTRY GIFT(s):

1. Pray that the Lord reveal to you what your special gifts are.
2. Begin to notice what characteristics "flow" in your spiritual activity. Ask yourself; do I work best with adults, young people, or children? Where would I be happiest in service. Where is the greatest need? Have I any talent which would make my service there acceptable?
3. Always recognize if your desire is spiritually motivated. Ask yourself am I doing this for recognition to myself or for God to get the glory?

Quick Review

21. THE FIRST THING I MUST DO TO FIND MY PLACE IN MINISTRY IS

A. SIGN UP FOR A MINISTRY I LIKE

B. PRAYER FOR DIRECTION FROM GOD

C. ASK A SPIRITUAL PERSON WHO KNOWS ME

22. THE PURPOSE OF MINISTRY GIFTS ARE

A. TO LIVE A PROSPEROUS LIFE

B. TO GET CLOSER TO GOD

C. TO EDIFY THE BODY OF BELIEVER AND MINISTER TO THE LOST

D. TO BUILD OURSELVES UP IN CHRIST SO WE WON'T HAVE LOW SELF-ESTEEM