



ALL IN

ALL IN RELATIONALLY

Scott Haus
February 16, 2020

GROUP ICE BREAKER

Share a story when you did something that demonstrated God's love to a friend.

REVIEW LAST WEEK'S NEXT STEPS

What, if any, next step did you commit to last week, how did it go?

- I will take the 3 Month Tithe Challenge.
- I will text Tithe to 925-275-5520.
- I will take Financial Peace University and get out of debt.
- I will move from giving nothing to giving something.
- I will move from occasional giving to consistently giving each month.
- I will begin tithing.
- I will move toward sacrificial giving.

THIS WEEK'S SERMON RECAP

Relationships are the source of some of our greatest pain in life and the source of our deepest connections and satisfaction. From the very beginning, God said it was not good that man was alone. We were created with the need for relationship with others. But today, there is an epidemic of loneliness where people feel they lack meaningful relationships in their lives, and more and more people are connecting digitally. Jesus gave a foundation for relationships when he taught the disciples that to be great, you must serve others, that relationships are not about what we get, but what we give. We see this in the friendship of Jonathan and David. Relationships have a bond of unity, as they were "one in spirit." Relationships are built on love, as Jonathan loved David as he loved himself. Relationships are secured by a covenant, a deep binding commitment to each other. Finally, that relationships require sacrifice, and where there is mutual sacrifice there will be mutual satisfaction. Christ modeled this for us by fulfilling the covenant God made with man, sacrificing himself on our behalf. All In Relationally is about being the relational person God wants us to be.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What are some of the reasons God created us with a need to be in relationships? Why do you think this is important to Him?
2. What are your thoughts on why people are lonely and lacking in meaningful relationships even though there are more ways than ever to connect today?
3. Pastor and author Tim Keller, says "We will never make it in life, unless we choose, grow and keep good relationships". What keeps people from making relationships a priority? OR If they are a priority, how does one make them work?

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DISCUSSION QUESTIONS (CONT)

4. Read Matthew 20:25-27: What is the mother of Zebedee's sons asking from Jesus? What is His response? What is our role as a Christian in ministering to others and in being ministered to?
5. 1 John 4:7, in ancient Greek, begins in a striking way- agapetoi agapomen, "those who are loved, let us love." We're not commanded to love others to earn God's love, but because we are loved by God, we are to love in light of it. Think of those in your life that are difficult to love, what is God asking you to do in those relationships? What initial step can you take?
6. Read 1 Samuel 18:2-10, Saul and Jonathan made a friendship covenant with each other, what risks did they take in doing this? How is unconditional love an important part of a covenant? Are there deal breakers?
7. John 15:13 "Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one's life for one's friends." Give examples of what this looks like in today's world.
8. God cares about the relationships you have, but he cares more about the type of relationship person *you are*. John 13:34-35 Relationships were never intended to be solely about what we get from them but rather what we give to them. What does this look like in our daily lives?
9. If you're looking for true, lasting, fulfilling relationships, then give that to others. What relationships in your life are hurting because you've been treating them like contracts rather than covenants?

NEXT STEPS FOR THIS WEEK (COMMIT TO GROW)

- I will commit to covenant, not contractual relationships
- I will seek to model Jesus in serving others
- I will work for unity in my relationships
- I will love unconditionally in my relationships
- I will be a covenant keeper in my relationships
- I will willingly sacrifice for others in my relationships

SCRIPTURE REFERENCES

- Matthew 20:20-28
- 1 Samuel 18:1-4
- Philippians 2:2
- Matthew 22:37-39
- 1 John 4:11
- Gen 15:9-10
- John 15:13