

CONVERSATION GUIDE

LET'S TALK ABOUT BUILDING RELATIONSHIPS

HERE'S THE BIG IDEA

John 13 shows us the serving heart of Jesus on display with his disciples. In washing their feet, he is enacting what it means to make sacrifices for relationships. When we are building relationships—whether in friendships, dating, or marriage—we are called to set aside our own selfish desires for self-sacrificing love. Let's talk about Building Relationships!

CONVERSATION TIP | ACCESSIBLE

A welcoming environment sets the stage for effective small group ministry. As Group leaders you play an important role in helping everyone feel assimilated and welcomed. Its very important to be aware on helping everyone feel welcomed especially new members of the group.

LET'S TALK BREAK THE ICE

Q. Who is your closest friend? Why?

Q: How do you build intentional relationships?

TELL ME THE TRUTH | JOHN 13:1-5

"It was just before the Passover Festival. Jesus knew that the hour had come for him to leave this world and go to the Father. Having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end. (2) The evening meal was in progress, and the devil had already prompted Judas, the son of Simon Iscariot, to betray Jesus. (3) Jesus knew that the Father had put all things under his power, and that he had come from God and was returning to God; (4) so he got up from the meal, took off his outer clothing, and wrapped a towel around his waist. (5) After that, he poured water into a basin and began to wash his disciples' feet, drying them with the towel that was wrapped around him."

Even though Jesus knew of the betrayal to come from Judas, he still served him with a self-giving love. Whether it is through friendship, dating, or marriage, we are to humble ourselves by loving others the way Jesus did.

Q: What does John 13:4 tells us about relationship building?

Q: How can we practically build in self-sacrifice to these relationships?

Q: How is self-sacrificing in a friend relationship different from dating/marriage?

Q: Why is the Christian view of dating/marriage different from the worldly view? How should Christians navigate these relationships?

GO DEEPER (OPTIONAL)

Q: Can you identify where you are more self-pleasing in your relationships than self-sacrificing? How can you be more mindful of these tendencies?

DO SOMETHING

A great way to love others in self-sacrificing ways is through mission trips. Visit 12stone.com/global to see where you can serve around the world.

RESOURCES

"Belonging – Friendship, Dating, Marriage" – 12Stone Church, Nov. 17, 2019 (Message)

"Lord, Increase My Capacity to Love" - Desiring God (Article)

"What Does 'Laying Down Your Life' Really Mean?" - Relevant Magazine (Article)