

# Let's Talk About Love 1

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### The Power of Relationships

**II Corinthians 7:5-6** – For when we came into Macedonia, this body of ours had no rest, but we were harassed at every turn—conflicts on the outside, fears within. <sup>6</sup> But God, who comforts the downcast, comforted us by the coming of Titus.

God not only comforts us by His presence, but through relationships!

**Genesis 2:18-23** – The Lord God said, "It is not good for the man to be alone. I will make a helper suitable for him." <sup>19</sup> Now the Lord God had formed out of the ground all the beasts of the field and all the birds of the air. He brought them to the man to see what he would name them; and whatever the man called each living creature, that was its name. <sup>20</sup> So the man gave names to all the livestock, the birds of the air and all the beasts of the field. But for Adam no suitable helper was found or in existence. <sup>21</sup> So the Lord God caused the man to fall into a deep sleep; and while he was sleeping, he took one of the man's ribs and closed up the place with flesh. <sup>22</sup> Then the Lord God made a woman from the rib he had taken out of the man, and he brought her to the man. <sup>23</sup> The man said, "This is now bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh; she shall be called 'woman,' for she was taken out of man."

Nothing in existence can meet our relational needs but other people. Substitutions don't cut it.

Relationships in your home are the first place where your needs should be met.

Leave your parents and receive from your spouse and other relationships.

### The Roadblocks of Relationships

Many people fail to fully enjoy varied relationships in their lives because they have been driven into isolation through trauma.

- Divorce / Death of a spouse
- Adultery
- Sexual / Physical Abuse
- Abandonment

People don't connect to church for the same reasons.

## **The Pursuit of Godly Relationships**

**I Corinthians 15:33** – Do not be fooled and let anyone deceive you; "Bad companions ruin good character, or associating with bad people will ruin decent people."

The opposite is true: Good companions will build good character.

**Hebrews 10:24-25** – And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds. <sup>25</sup> Let us not give up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but let us encourage one another — and all the more as you see the Day approaching.