



London Gospel Temple

...by my Spirit

Zechariah 4:6

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February 2022

# BUILDING RELATIONSHIPS THAT BLESS

*Love the Lord &  
Love your neighbour*

Mark 12:30-31

By Pastor Robert Smith



*a multitude of sins. Offer hospitality to one another without grumbling. Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms.*

**Job 6:14**

*Anyone who withholds kindness from a friend forsakes the fear of the Almighty.*

**Proverbs 22:24-25**

*Do not make friends with a hot-tempered person, do not associate with one easily angered, or you may learn their ways and get yourself ensnared.*

**Proverbs 13:20**

*Walk with the wise and become wise, for a companion of fools suffers harm.*

**Proverbs 27:6**

*Wounds from a friend can be trusted, but an enemy multiplies kisses.*

**Colossians 3:12-14**

*Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience. Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. Forgive as the Lord forgave you. And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity.*

**Looking At Ourselves First**

Is the Holy Spirit showing you any areas you need to change in your life?

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The below traits are from 1 Corinthians 13:4-7. These are traits that show the love of Christ in a person. If these characteristics are not seen in your life, they can have very negative effects on your relationships:

Patient	Kind
Does not envy	Does not boast
Is not proud	Does not dishonour others
Is not self-seeking	Is not easily angered
No record of wrongs	Does not delight in evil
Rejoices with the truth	Always protects
Always trusts	Always hopes
Always perseveres	

Is the Holy Spirit highlighting any of the above traits for you to work on? Do you see any of them negatively impacting your relationships?

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## Different Types of Relationships in our Lives

Who are you connected with?

Family: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Friends: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Co-workers: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Neighbours: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

## Scriptures on Friendship

### **Ecclesiastes 4:9-10**

*Two are better than one, because they have a good return for their labor: If either of them falls down, one can help the other up. But pity anyone who falls and has no one to help them up.*

### **John 15:12-13**

*My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you. Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one's life for one's friends.*

### **Proverbs 16:28**

*A perverse person stirs up conflict, and a gossip separates close friends.*

### **Proverbs 17:9**

*Whoever would foster love covers over an offense, but whoever repeats the matter separates close friends.*

### **Proverbs 18:24**

*One who has unreliable friends soon comes to ruin, but there is a friend who sticks closer than a brother.*

### **Proverbs 27:9**

*Perfume and incense bring joy to the heart, and the pleasantness of a friend springs from their heartfelt advice.*

### **1 Peter 4:8-10**

*Above all, love each other deeply, because love covers over*

What can you give in your relationships? How can you bless the people around you?

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What can you do for new friends or relationships in your life? How could you bless them or connect with them?

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Can you be a loving friend at stressful times in life?

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What is the Lord speaking to you about your relationships? Is there anything you need to change?

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How do you show the people you're connected with love?

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How do you build your relationships up?

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### **Choosing Friends**

#### **1 Corinthians 15:33**

*Do not be misled: "Bad company corrupts good character."*

#### **Proverbs 12:26**

*The righteous choose their friends carefully, but the way of the wicked leads them astray.*

Are the people closest to you those with godly character? Do you have any friends that you should spend less time with?

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A true friend has some of the following qualities:

- Speaks truthfully
- Says things in love
- Prays for you
- Is thoughtful (but not perfect)
- Forgives
- Is giving
- Is loyal
- Is a peacemaker

Look for the above qualities when choosing friends to speak into your life. Ask the Lord to reveal those you can trust in your life, or whom you should connect more with.

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Do you need new friends?

Yes

No

How do you choose new friends so it's God's way and His will? Pray and ask the Lord to bring godly connections into your life.

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Is there anyone you know that the Lord is showing you really needs a friend right now that you could connect with, or someone you He's telling you to build a deeper relationship with?

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### God's Relationship with us

#### John 3:16

*For God so **loved** the world that he **gave** his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.*

God LOVED the world  
God GAVE His Son Jesus

Two words are LOVE and GAVE

God loved us enough that He gave His son Jesus to die on the cross before we had been forgiven of our sins.

For us to become a friend of God, we should be willing to love and give at all times.

#### Proverbs 17:17

*A friend loves at all times, and a brother is born for a time of adversity.*