



RCCG OCEANIA

Relationships

MAINTAINING QUALITY RELATIONSHIPS BIBLICALLY

AT A GLANCE

BIG IDEA

Relationships are crucial for personal and spiritual growth. The Bible offers timeless principles for building and sustaining these connections, emphasizing selflessness, skill, and the avoidance of jealousy. By understanding and applying these biblical teachings, one can foster relationships that are mutually beneficial and spiritually enriching.

PRIMARY PASSAGES

Amos 3:3

Proverbs 18:24

1 Samuel 16:17-21

KEY TAKEAWAYS

- Relationships are essential for success and growth.
- Mutual agreement is necessary for strong relationships.
- Selflessness and skill are vital in maintaining relationships.
- Avoiding jealousy and offense is crucial for relationship health.
- Forgiveness and tolerance are key to sustaining connections.

INTRODUCTION

The Bible provides profound insights into forming and maintaining quality relationships. By examining biblical principles, we can learn how to cultivate connections that are both spiritually enriching and personally fulfilling. This study explores how agreement, selflessness, skill, and the avoidance of jealousy contribute to healthy relationships.

SCRIPTURE READING

- **Amos 3:3** — Highlights the necessity of agreement in forming strong relationships.
- **Proverbs 18:24** — Emphasizes the importance of being friendly to cultivate friendships.
- **1 Samuel 16:17-21** — Shows how skill and service can open doors to significant relationships.

KEY POINTS

1. **THE IMPORTANCE OF AGREEMENT** — Agreement is foundational for any relationship to thrive. Without it, progress and unity are hindered. Amos 3:3 asks, 'Can two walk together unless they are agreed?' This rhetorical question underscores the necessity of shared goals ...

KEY POINTS (CONT.)

1. THE IMPORTANCE OF AGREEMENT (CONT.) — and values in relationships. Agreement fosters unity and facilitates cooperation, enabling relationships to flourish.

- Identify areas of agreement with those you are in relationship with.
- Discuss and align on shared goals and values.
- Resolve disagreements through open and honest communication.

Scripture: Amos 3:3

KEY POINTS (CONT.)

2. THE ROLE OF SELFLESSNESS — Being selfless in relationships fosters trust and mutual growth. Selflessness involves putting the needs of others before your own, which can strengthen bonds and create an environment of mutual respect. This principle is evident throughout Scripture, where love and sacrifice are often highlighted as keys to enduring relationships.
- Practice putting others' needs before your own in daily interactions.
 - Seek opportunities to serve those you are in relationship with.
 - Reflect on how selflessness can improve your relationships.

KEY POINTS (CONT.)

3. AVOIDING JEALOUSY AND OFFENSE — Jealousy and offense can destroy relationships. It is crucial to avoid these pitfalls to maintain harmony. The Bible warns against jealousy and encourages forgiveness and understanding. By focusing on positive communication and empathy, relationships can be preserved and strengthened.

- Identify and address feelings of jealousy or offense promptly.
- Practice forgiveness and seek reconciliation when conflicts arise.
- Cultivate a mindset of gratitude and contentment.

KEY POINTS (CONT.)

4. THE POWER OF SKILL AND SERVICE — Skill and service can create opportunities for meaningful relationships, as demonstrated by David's relationship with Saul. David's musical skill and willingness to serve opened doors for him in Saul's court, illustrating how talents and a servant's heart can foster significant connections.

- Develop and share your skills to serve others.
- Look for ways to contribute positively to your relationships.
- Recognize and appreciate the skills and contributions of others.

Scripture: 1 Samuel 16:17-21

GROUP DISCUSSION

Tip: Use these questions to guide the group from seeing → understanding → applying.

OBSERVATION

- What does Amos 3:3 suggest about the importance of agreement in relationships?
- How does Proverbs 18:24 describe the qualities of a good friend?
- What role did David's skills play in his relationship with Saul?

INTERPRETATION

- Why is agreement considered foundational for relationships according to the Bible?
- In what ways does selflessness contribute to the strength of a relationship?
- How can jealousy and offense be detrimental to relationships?

APPLICATION

- How can you apply the principle of agreement in your current relationships?
- What are some practical ways to demonstrate selflessness in your daily interactions?
- How can you use your skills to serve and build relationships with others?

PRAYER FOCUS

- Pray for wisdom to identify and nurture relationships that align with biblical principles.
- Ask for a heart of selflessness to strengthen and enrich your relationships.
- Seek God's guidance in overcoming jealousy and fostering harmony in your connections.
- Pray for opportunities to use your skills in service to others, building meaningful relationships.

NEXT STEP

Reflect on your current relationships and identify one area where you can apply a biblical principle to enhance its quality.

CONCLUSION

Maintaining quality relationships requires intentional effort and adherence to biblical principles. By focusing on agreement, selflessness, skill, and avoiding jealousy, we can cultivate connections that are both fulfilling and spiritually enriching. Let us strive to apply these teachings in our lives, fostering relationships that reflect the love and wisdom found in Scripture.