

Stonecreek Christian Church

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## **HOW TO BUILD BETTER RELATIONSHIPS**

**Mark 12:28-31** "Of all the commandments, which is the most important?" "The most important one," answered Jesus, "is this: 'Hear, O Israel, the Lord our God, the Lord is one. Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength.' The second is this: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.' There is no commandment greater than these."

**1 Thessalonians 2:8**. ...Because we loved you so much, we were delighted to share with you not only the gospel of God but our lives as well.

*Matthew 7:12, Romans 12:18*

Six key "one anothers" that can help us build better relationships...

### **1. ACCEPT OTHERS EVEN IF THEY AREN'T LIKE ME.**

*Romans 15:7* Wherefore, accept one another, just as Christ also accepted us to the glory of God.

*Luke 7:36-47, Ephesians 4:2*

### **2. TAKE TIME TO CARE FOR THE NEEDS OF THOSE AROUND ME**

*1 Corinthians 12:25* that there should be no division in the body, but that the members should have the same care for one another.

*Galatians 6:2, Philippians 2:4-8, Luke 7:11-13, Phil 2:4-8*

### **3. FORGIVE THOSE THAT HAVE HURT YOU**

*Ephesians 4:32* And be kind to one another, tender-hearted, forgiving each other, just as God in Christ also has forgiven you.

*Colossians 3:13*

## **Four Steps to Forgiving Others**

1. **Recognize** the injury and express your anger
2. **Remember** that we have been totally forgiven
3. **Accept** others as they are
4. **Release** the person from the debt

### **4. ENCOURAGE OTHERS AND BUILD THEM UP**

*1 Thessalonians 5:11* Therefore encourage one another, and build up one another, just as you also are doing.

*Hebrews 3:13, Hebrews 10:24-25*

How to be a better encourager...

1. Cultivate an encouraging **attitude**.
2. Make an **effort** to encourage.
3. Encourage people in their **walk with God**.
4. Be aware of **opportunities** to encourage.
5. Use different **ways** to encourage others

### **5. PRAY FOR GOD'S BLESSING ON THOSE AROUND YOU**

*James 5:16* ... and pray for one another...

*Luke 22:31-32, John 17:20*

### **6. DEMONSTRATE LOVE IN ALL CIRCUMSTANCES**

*1 Thessalonians 4:9* Now as to the love of the brethren, you have no need for anyone to write to you, for you yourselves are taught by God to love one another;

*John 13:34, Romans 12:10*

*John 3:16* To love means to **give**

How am I to love others?

1. The Old Commandment said **you** are the standard
2. The New Commandment says **Jesus** is the standard