

## Genesis: Making Relationships Work October 13, 2019 Discussion Notes

Everyone is encouraged to bring a Bible

(Phone apps are good for reading together in the same translation. Study Bibles give help with interpretation.)



### MAKING RELATIONSHIPS WORK

- CONNECT WITH GOD
- COMBAT SIN
- CAST OFF JEALOUSY
- COMMIT TO OTHERS
- CLAIM RESPONSIBILITY
- CHOOSE TO FORGIVE
- CRY OUT TO GOD

### Questions:

1. Can you remember your first crush? Share some stories with each other in your group.
2. What do you think are some of the hardest things about making relationships work?
3. What do you remember about each of the main points of the sermon? (seen above). What in the sermon challenged you? Do you have any questions to bring up?
4. Read Luke 11:47-51 where Jesus is rebuking the Pharisees.
  - a) In what way were these Pharisees like their forefathers who had killed the prophets that God sent to them?
  - b) Why do you think Jesus mentions the murder of Abel? What does his story have to do with the issues Jesus is addressing?
5. Read Exodus 20:4-5 (this is the 2<sup>nd</sup> commandment of the Ten Commandments)
  - a) What does it mean that God is jealous?
  - b) Now read and Exodus 20:17 (this is the 10<sup>th</sup> commandment of the Ten Commandments). What is coveting?
  - c) What is the difference between God's jealousy and the kind of jealousy (coveting) that we are told to avoid?
6. Read Genesis 50:15-21
  - a) What had Joseph's brothers done to him years prior? (the story is in Genesis 37)
  - b) Why had they treated Joseph this way?
  - c) What did Joseph mean by saying, "Don't be afraid. Am I in the place of God?" (see Romans 12:19)
  - d) How did Joseph's understanding of God's will affect how he viewed his brothers' cruelty?
  - e) Is there anyone you need to forgive? Do you think Joseph's perspective might help you in your situation?
7. Read Galatians 5:14-26
  - a) Explain how the entire Old Testament law be summed up in one command.
  - b) According to this passage, describe the lifestyle of someone who follows the sinful nature.
  - c) According to this passage, describe the lifestyle of someone who follows the Holy Spirit.
  - d) How do each of these lifestyles affect our relationships?
  - e) How can we bear the fruit of the Spirit? (see John 15:4-5 and Isaiah 26:12)
  - f) How can we "live by the Spirit", be "led by the Spirit", and "keep in the step with the Spirit"? (see Acts 13:2 for one idea).
8. Share prayer requests and pray together. Pray for the relationships in your lives. Pray that you would bear the fruit of the Spirit, thereby blessing those around you.