

When we honor appropriately—whether God or others—we position ourselves for blessing.

Point 6: Unity is a Calling Every Believer is Urged to Pursue

Psalms 133:1 (NKJV) "Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity!"

Ephesians 4:1 (NKJV) I, therefore, the prisoner of the Lord, beseech you to walk worthy of the calling with which you were called,

Ephesians 4:2 (NKJV) with all lowliness and gentleness, with longsuffering, bearing with one another in love,

Ephesians 4:3 (NKJV) endeavoring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.

Be a peacemaker in your family and church. Avoid gossip, assumptions, and strife. Be quick to restore harmony and promote the common good.

Point 7: Pray for One Another

James 5:16 (NKJV) "Confess your trespasses to one another, and pray for one another, that you may be healed..."

This verse directly commands believers to pray for one another, linking it to healing and restoration. It shows that mutual prayer builds transparency, accountability, and brings powerful results when done earnestly by those living in right standing with God.

Philippians 1:3 (NKJV) I thank my God upon every remembrance of you,

Philippians 1:4 (NKJV) always in every prayer of mine making request for you all with joy,

Praying for others should be rooted in gratitude and love, not obligation, reflecting the joy and unity of Christian fellowship.

Make prayer a regular part of your daily life. Ask how you can pray for others. Intercession draws you closer to God and deepens your care for others.



Built to Last: Establishing and Strengthening Biblical Relationships

Sunday May 25, 2025

Matthew 22:37 (NKJV) Jesus said to him, "'You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind.'

Matthew 22:38 (NKJV) This is the first and great commandment.

Matthew 22:39 (NKJV) And the second is like it: 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.'

Matthew 22:40 (NKJV) On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets."

1 Corinthians 13:8 (NKJV) Love never fails.

Point 1: Love is the Foundation of Every Successful Relationship

John 13:34-35 (NKJV) "A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another; as I have loved you, that you also love one another. By this all will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another."

1 John 4:20-21 (NKJV) "If someone says, 'I love God,' and hates his brother, he is a liar... he who loves God must love his brother also."

Express love intentionally.

Love is the framework of God's design for relationship.

Point 2: Forgiveness Maintains Healthy Relationships

Matthew 6:14 (NKJV) "For if you forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you."

Matthew 6:15 (NKJV) "But if you do not forgive men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses."

Refusing to forgive breaks fellowship with both.

Ephesians 4:32 (NKJV) "And be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God in Christ forgave you."

Colossians 3:12 (NKJV) "Therefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, put on tender mercies, kindness, humility, meekness, longsuffering;"

Colossians 3:13 (NKJV) "Bearing with one another, and forgiving one another... even as Christ forgave you, so you also must do."

Ephesians 4:31 (NKJV) "Let all bitterness, wrath, anger, clamor, and evil speaking be **put away from you, with all malice.**"

MALICE: A propensity to inflict injury or suffering, or to take pleasure in the misfortunes of another or others; active ill-will, whether from natural disposition or special impulse; enmity;

Forgiveness is not optional—it's essential. It enables us to "bear with" others in love and maintain unity even in conflict.

Let go of past offenses quickly. Focus on the good qualities instead of the bad.

Point 3: Serve One Another in Love

Galatians 5:13 (NKJV) "Through love serve one another."

Serving one another in love is part of our new identity in Him.

Philippians 2:3-4 (NKJV) "Let nothing be done through selfish ambition... but in lowliness of mind let each esteem others better than himself."

Serving in love means stooping low, not to be diminished, but to lift others up.

Every believer has something to give. Serving one another is how we steward God's grace in our lives. Love is the motive, and ministry is the expression.

Point 4: Wise Communication is Key to Unity

How we communicate can either preserve peace or provoke conflict. Wisdom in communication fosters unity.

Ephesians 4:29 (NKJV) Let no corrupt word proceed out of your mouth, but what is good for necessary edification, that it may impart grace to the hearers.

Ephesians 4:30 (NKJV) And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption.

Our words should build up and bring grace, not tear down. Faulty communication grieves the Spirit and disrupts unity.

James 1:19 (NKJV) "Let every man be swift to hear, slow to speak, slow to wrath."

James 1:20 (NKJV) For the wrath of man does not produce the righteousness of God.

Listening well and speaking wisely are the foundation of good communication.

Proverbs 15:1 (NKJV) "A soft answer turns away wrath, but a harsh word stirs up anger."

Speak life and peace. In conflicts, respond rather than react. Use your words to build up, not tear down.

Point 5: Honoring One Another Brings Blessing

Romans 12:10 (NKJV) "Be kindly affectionate to one another with brotherly love, in honor giving preference to one another."

Blessings flow in environments where people are lifted rather than ignored or diminished.

Exodus 20:12 (NKJV) "Honor your father and your mother, that your days may be long..."

The principle of honor extends to all relationships and brings divine favor.

Peter 2:17 (NKJV) Honor all people. Love the brotherhood. Fear God. Honor the king.

This verse expands the call to honor everyone, not just those close to us. When we treat all people with dignity, we reflect God's heart.

Proverbs 3:9 (NKJV) Honor the Lord with your possessions, and with the firstfruits of all your increase;

Proverbs 3:10 (NKJV) So your barns will be filled with plenty, and your vats will overflow with new wine.