



Relate like Jesus
Pastor Dave Patterson 10.12.2025

USING THIS SERMON DISCUSSION GUIDE

We have provided all the Scriptures references in the sermon and some discussion questions for you to use to discuss the weekend message.

This Sermon Discussion Guide is only a tool to aid you in meeting the needs of your group. For most groups, there are too many questions to answer in one session. Give priority to the needs and pace of your group members.

While the questions are important, remember your group's goal is to create an atmosphere that will foster true friendships. Use the discussion questions as you see fit but emphasize the relationships.

1. The Lord is a relational God, and you were made in His image

[Genesis 3:8]

And they heard the sound of the LORD God walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and Adam and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the LORD among the trees of the garden.

2. Jesus' relationships are intentional and directed by the Father

[Luke 6:12-14]

One day soon afterward Jesus went up on a mountain to pray, and he prayed to God all night. At daybreak he called together all of his disciples and chose twelve of them to be apostles. Here are their names:

[Proverbs 13:20]

He who walks with the wise will be wise, But the companion of fools will be destroyed.

[Proverbs 12:26]

The righteous should choose their friends carefully, For the way of the wicked leads them astray.

Intentional Relationships:

- Be prayerful about your partnerships and friendships (pray all night if necessary)
- Do not be unequally yoked (2 Corinthians 6:14)
- Be willing to walk away from relationships that are taking you in the wrong direction
- Pray for and be aware of “divine connections” and “Holy-Spirit- inspired- partnerships”

3. All relationships involve flawed people and require reconciliation

[Mark 16:6]

He is risen! He is not here. See the place where they laid Him. But go, tell His disciples and Peter that He is going before you into Galilee; there you will see Him, as He said to you.”

[2 Corinthians 5:17-19]

Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here! All this is a gift from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us this ministry of reconciliation: that is, God was in Christ reconciling the world to himself, not counting people’s sins against them. And he has committed to us the message of reconciliation.

Key Points:

- 1. The Lord is a relational God, and you were made in his image***
- 2. Jesus’ relationships are intentional and directed by the Father***
- 3. All relationships involve flawed people and require reconciliation***

Applications for the Week:

Jesus was intentional about his relationships, even praying all night before choosing his closest friends. How intentional are you about the people you allow into your inner circle? Is there a relationship you need to pray about or reconsider this week?

Discussion Questions:

- 1. In Genesis 3:8 what was Adam and Eve’s response when they heard God walking in the garden, and what does this reveal about the effects of sin on relationships?***

- 2.** According to Luke 6:12-13, what did Jesus do before choosing his twelve disciples, and why is this detail significant?
- 3.** In 2 Corinthians 5:17-19, what does Paul say is the result of being in Christ, and what ministry are believers given?
- 4.** Pastor Dave shared that sin separates us from our heavenly father. It separates us from one another. How have you seen this dynamic play out in your own life or in the world around you?
- 5.** 2 Corinthians 5 says, God was not counting people's sins against them. How does this contrast with the way people often handle relational failures?
- 6.** Jesus reinstated Peter after his failure, not with suspicion but with trust and renewed purpose. What does this teach us about restoration and forgiveness in our own relationships?
- 7.** The message encourages us to "refuse to keep a ledger of wrongs, and extend the same grace we have received." What is one specific way you can practice this in a relationship that is currently strained?