



# RELATIONSHIPS

T H E C H U R C H O F E L E V E N 2 2

## WHAT IS IT?

There are different types of relationships like family, marriage, friendship, parent, caregiver, etc. We all have been created to be first in relationship with God and with others because we are relational creatures. From the beginning, God said it was “not good for man to be alone,” and so He created a suitable companion for Adam (Genesis 2:18). The quality of all our relationships flow from our relationship with God.



## WHAT DOES THE BIBLE SAY ABOUT THIS TOPIC?

### **1 Peter 4:8-10**

Above all, keep loving one another earnestly, since love covers a multitude of sins. Show hospitality to one another without grumbling. As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God’s varied grace.

### **Hebrews 10:24-25** (NIV)

And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching.

### **Galatians 5:13-15** (NIV)

You, my brothers and sisters, were called to be free. But do not use your freedom to indulge the flesh; rather, serve one another humbly in love. For the entire law is fulfilled in keeping this one command: “Love your neighbor as yourself.” If you bite and devour each other, watch out or you will be destroyed by each other.

## WHY, AS CHRISTIANS, DO WE CARE ABOUT THIS TOPIC?

It is often easier said than done for us to love others well. Sometimes we can end up in conflict or unhealthy patterns in our relationships. But for this very reason He has sent us the Helper - the Holy Spirit who produces the fruit of love, joy, peace, patience, goodness, kindness, gentleness, faithfulness and self-control (Gal.5:22-23), and by whose power we can do all things through Christ, including loving and serving others.