
Reflecting God's love and grace in one another

*Phil. 1:7 It is right for me to feel this way about all of you, since **I have you in my heart**; ⁸ God can testify how I long for all of you with the affection of Christ Jesus.*

■ *Philemon 7 Your love has given me great joy and encouragement, because you, brother, have **refreshed** the hearts of the saints.*

Making it personal

James 1:22 Let every man be quick to hear, slow to speak, slow to be angry.

1. Listener.
2. Don't quickly react. Prov. 15:28; 18:13.
3. **Curious**. Be curious about someone's inner story; they need to sense this. We call this care.
4. What stops the process? Minimize what we hear; give advice; suggest a course of action.
- 5. What **good desires** do you hear in the heart of the person with whom you're talking? ■

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In

Redemptive Relating #4

February 20, 2022

"Redemptive Relating:" With, for, toward, in, up.

God Relating “In” People

Christ is after our **heart**.

■ *Romans 7:15 I do not understand what I do. For what I want to do I do not do, but what I hate I do.*

■ *Mark 7:6-7 ..."These people honor me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me. They worship me in vain; their teachings are but rules taught by men."*

Proverbs 4:23 Keep (Guard) your heart with all vigilance, for from it flow the springs of life.

■ *Galatians 2:20 I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but **Christ lives in me**. **The life I live** in the body I live by faith in the son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.*

Case study with Cain

■ *Genesis 4:6 Then the LORD said to Cain, “Why are you angry? Why is your face downcast? ⁷ If you do what is right, will you not be accepted? But if you do not do what is right, sin is crouching at your door; it desires to have you, but you must rule over it.”*

⁹ Then the LORD said to Cain, "Where is your brother Abel?"

"I don't know," he replied. "Am I my brother's keeper?"

¹⁰ The LORD said, "What have you done? Listen! Your brother's blood cries out to me from the ground. ¹¹ Now you are under a curse and driven from the ground, which opened its mouth to receive your brother's blood from your hand.

¹² When you work the ground, it will no longer yield its crops for you. You will be a restless wanderer on the earth."

¹³ Cain said to the LORD, "My punishment is more than I can bear. ¹⁴ Today you are driving me from the land, and I will be hidden from your presence; I will be a restless wanderer on the earth, and whoever finds me will kill me."

¹⁵ But the LORD said to him, "Not so; anyone who kills Cain will suffer vengeance seven times over." Then the LORD put a mark on Cain so that no one who found him would kill him.

¹⁶ So Cain went out from the LORD's presence and lived in the land of Nod, east of Eden.

We Relating "In" with People

Heb. 3:13 But encourage one another daily, as long as it is called "Today," so that none of you may be **hardened** by **sin's deceitfulness**.

The example of Jesus--moving our hearts

Luke 7:36 Now one of the Pharisees invited Jesus to have dinner with him, so he went to the Pharisee's house and reclined at the table.

³⁷ When a woman who had lived a sinful life in that town learned that Jesus was eating at the Pharisee's house, **she brought an alabaster jar of perfume**, ³⁸ and as she stood behind him at his feet weeping, she began to wet his feet with her tears. Then she wiped them with her hair, kissed them and poured perfume on them.

³⁹ When the Pharisee who had invited him saw this, he **said to himself**, "If this man were a prophet, he would know who is touching him and what kind of woman she is... she is a sinner."

⁴⁰ Jesus answered him, "Simon, I have something to tell you." "Tell me, teacher," he said. ⁴¹ "Two men owed money to a certain moneylender. One owed him five hundred denarii, and the other fifty.

⁴² Neither of them had the money to pay him back,

...so he canceled the debts of both.

Now which of them will love him more?" ⁴³ Simon replied, "I suppose the one who had the bigger debt canceled." "You have judged correctly," Jesus said.

⁴⁴ Then **he turned toward the woman** and **said to Simon**, "Do you see this woman? I came into your house. You did not give me any water for my feet, but she wet my feet with her tears and wiped them with her hair.

⁴⁵ You did not give me a kiss, but this woman, from the time I entered, has not stopped kissing my feet.

⁴⁶ You did not put oil on my head, but she has poured perfume on my feet.

⁴⁷ Therefore, I tell you, her many sins have been forgiven-- for she loved much. But he who has been forgiven little loves little." ⁴⁸ Then Jesus said to her, "Your sins are forgiven." ⁴⁹ The other guests began to say among themselves, "Who is this who even forgives sins?" ⁵⁰ Jesus said to her, "Your faith has saved you; go in peace."