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<sup>9</sup> Indeed, in our hearts we felt the sentence of death....

— ... *But this happened that we might not rely on ourselves but on God, who raises the dead.*

— <sup>10</sup> *He has delivered us from such a deadly peril, and he will deliver us. On him we have set our hope that he will continue to deliver us,*

— <sup>11</sup> *as you help us by your prayers. Then many will give thanks on our behalf for the gracious favor granted us in answer to the prayers of many.*

— God draws us "up" to Himself. Our greatest and highest connection is "upward," with God, but it is often made "more real" through redemptive conversations with His people.

— LISTEN to or VIEW video of past PCI messages at [www.pacificchurch.com](http://www.pacificchurch.com)

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## Up

### Redemptive Relating #5

February 27, 2022

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

— God relates to us to elevate our hearts UP to Him as first priority and first love. We powerfully relate to others when we help awaken someone's hidden desire to know God and live for Him above anything else.

### What traits is God building in His people?

— *Isaiah 55:1 “Come, all you who are thirsty, come to the waters; and you who have no money, come, buy and eat! Come, buy wine and milk without money and without cost.*

— <sup>2</sup> *Why spend money on what is not bread, and your labor on what does not satisfy? Listen, listen to me, and eat what is good, and you will delight in the richest of fare.*

— <sup>3</sup> *Give ear and come to me; listen, that you may live.*

— *Psalm 37:4 Take delight in the LORD, and he will give you the desires of your heart. <sup>5</sup> Commit your way to the LORD; trust in him and he will do this...*

— *Matt. 5:3 Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.*

— <sup>4</sup> *Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.*

— <sup>5</sup> *Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.*

— <sup>6</sup> *Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.*

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Prov. 8:13 To fear the LORD is to hate evil; I hate pride and arrogance,

## Drawing us up to Him from deeper places in us

Proverbs 20:5 The purposes of a **man's heart** are deep waters, but a man of understanding draws them out.

Relating to another person with “UP” in mind

## Hearing someone's inner story.

James 1:19 My dear brothers, take note of this: Everyone should be **quick** to **listen**, **slow** to speak and **slow** to become angry.

## Pondering and considering

Proverbs 18:13 If anyone gives answer before he hears, it is his folly and shame.

Heb. 10:24 let us **consider** how to **stir up** one another to love and good works, <sup>25</sup> not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near.

**"Consider"**-

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Questions to ask yourself:

What is going on **deeper** in my friend?

What inner battles is he waging?

What **stirs** in **me**, as he shares his story?

What resonates with your inner story?

What does God seem to be shaping in my friend?

What deeper desires is God awakening?

About what are you more curious? What else would you like to know?

What does he wish would be different about his **response** to his challenge?

## **"Stir up"** –

Heb. 10:24 let us consider how to **stir up** one another to love and good works, <sup>25</sup> not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near.

A case study: Paul

## How would you respond to Paul's inner story?

2 Corinthians 1:8 We don't want you to be uninformed, brothers, about the **hardships** we **suffered** in the province of Asia...

We were under **great pressure**, far beyond our ability to **endure**, so that **we despaired even of life**.

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