



2019 SPIRITUAL GROWTH CHALLENGE
February 10 - 16, 2019
Better Relationships series
Dating Relationships

5G LIFE:

✈ **GOD**

↑ **GROW**

↻ **GATHER**

↔ **GIVE**

→ **Go**

Group / Personal Prayer Requests (for the week):

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GOD - TALK AND LISTEN TO GOD DAILY.



GROW - APPLY WHAT YOU ARE LEARNING FROM THE BIBLE.

BIBLE VERSE FOR THE WEEK:

"For we are God's masterpiece. He has created us anew in Christ Jesus, so we can do the good things He planned for us long ago." ~ Ephesians 2:10 NLT

SUGGESTED BIBLE READING:

Note: You can download the YouVersion Bible App to access the Bible and Bible reading plans. We recommend starting with the New Living Translation of the Bible.

- **Monday** - Genesis 1
- **Tuesday** - Genesis 2
- **Wednesday** - Genesis 3
- **Thursday** - Ephesians 2
- **Friday** - 1 Corinthians 13

WORSHIP SONGS FROM SUNDAY:

- *This Is Amazing Grace* by Phil Wickham
- *Your Love Never Fails* by Jesus Culture
- *Ever Be* by For All Seasons
- *How He Loves* by David Crowder

DATING RESOURCES:

- *Real Relationships* by Les and Leslie Parrott
- *Love, Sex and Dating* by Andy Stanley



GATHER - GATHER WITH A SMALL GROUP OF CHRIST FOLLOWERS TO LEARN HOW TO LIVE IN BIBLICAL COMMUNITY.

The following starter questions are for personal reflection or group discussion. They are taken from the message given at Epic. You can listen to this message at theepicchurch.com or download it from iTunes.

- 1) Describe dating in today's culture. What was or is dating like for you?
- 2) Read Genesis 2:15 - 25. What did God say wasn't good in this passage? What was His answer for that problem?
- 3) Drs Les and Leslie Parrott said - "If you try to find intimacy with another person before achieving a sense of identity on your own, all your relationships become an attempt to complete yourself." Do you agree or disagree with that statement and why?
- 4) Read Truth 1 and 2 on the back of this page. How can those two truths complement each other when they seem contradictory? How do they apply to your life?
- 5) Read 1 Corinthians 13:14 - 7. How can those verses help us live out Truth 3 on the back? Which of those items listed in that passage do you need to work on?
- 6) Even though most of us know Truth 4 is correct - why do many people ignore it when waiting for the right type of person to date or marry?
- 7) Do you have a sense of your own identity?



GIVE - GIVE OF YOUR TIME, TALENTS AND RESOURCES TO ADVANCE THE KINGDOM OF GOD.

Get one or both of the resources above and read them for yourself or for someone you know who is dating.



Go - TELL OTHERS ABOUT JESUS WITH YOUR LIFE AND WORDS.

After reading one of the dating resources mentioned above give that resource to someone who is dating and encourage them to read it.

NOTES SECTION

Feel free to follow along with the message outline and take notes which will enhance your personal study and / or your discussion in one of our Community Groups.

MESSAGE OUTLINE

Truth #1) We were designed by God to be in relationships with others.

Truth #2) You don't need to be with someone to be someone.

Truth #3) To find the right person – we must become the right person.

Truth #4) The pain of waiting is less than the pain of regretting.

KEY TAKEAWAY

“If you try to find intimacy with another person before achieving a sense of identity on your own, all your relationships become an attempt to complete yourself.” – Drs Les and Leslie Parrott

HOMEWORK EXERCISES

- If you aren't married, write out a description of the type of person you want to marry. Be detailed about the characteristics you are looking for in a spouse (their faith / work ethic / personality / physical attributes / etc.).
- Then ask a trusted friend to review that list with you and ask them to hold you accountable to that list as you date.
- If you are married, write out a list of all the things you are thankful for your spouse for. Then tell your spouse those things in person. Give specific examples for each thing you identified.