

THIS IS US

OUR MISSION, VISION, & VALUES

Discussion Guide | Week 3: Relational Environments | February 9, 2020

KEY VERSES Exodus 20:1-17; Galatians 5:19-25; John 20:19-21

KEY POINTS

1. Serving a relational God means being in relationship with him & others.
2. The Ten Commandments helped nurture & preserve relationships.
3. Fruit (of the Spirit) is measured by our capacity to be in relationship with one another.
4. The very things the Holy Spirit is growing in us prepares us for relationship.
5. *Additional notes from Sunday's message are available on page 2.*

WE WILL CREATE ENVIRONMENTS OF
HUMILITY AND TRANSPARENCY WHERE
PEOPLE ARE LOVED AND ACCEPTED
IN RICH COMMUNITY.

REMEMBER When you think back to Sunday's message, was there something that really stuck out to you? Maybe a particular story, a key detail, or a new understanding? Explain.

REFLECT Throughout history, God has made relational environments a crucial part of his rescue plan to save the world (briefly review the **KEY POINTS** above & also notes on page 2). Jesus was so serious about building relational environments that he is thought to have spent 80% of his time focusing his ministry within a small triangle in Galilee (see map on page 2). How does understanding God as a relational God change how a person approaches life? What does a person lose when they fail to grasp this important truth?

RESPOND Humility & transparency aren't exactly the norm in our culture (let alone vulnerability). It's easy to try to pretend that we have it all together... to try to appear to be someone that we're not. What's the danger when we choose to live this way? What difference does it make when we faithfully show humility & transparency? And why is that the case?

REAL LIFE Building relational environments within our church really is an "us" thing. Rich community & genuine love don't just happen on their own overnight. They take time & intentionality from all of us. Relational environments develop when we're sold out to being disciples who make disciples. With that said, what would you say is your role in building relational environments at SCC? What does that look like here in this group as well as elsewhere within our church? Explain.

PRAYER TIME On Sunday, Mike challenged us not to assume that any relationship (with God or others) in our lives is broken beyond repair. Is there a relationship in your own life that you need to surrender to Jesus? Spend some time together asking the Holy Spirit to heal the hurts caused by that relationship & to begin helping you pursue reconciliation.

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FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT:

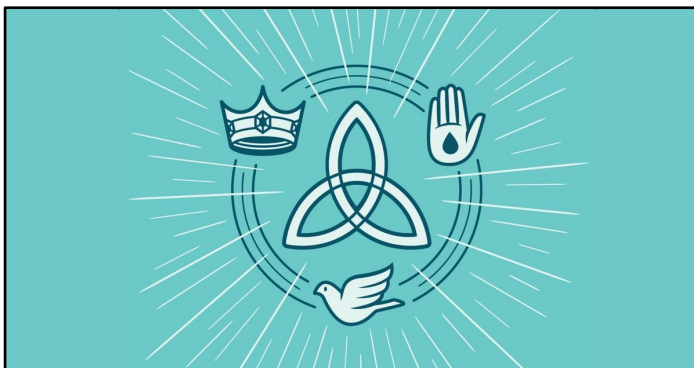
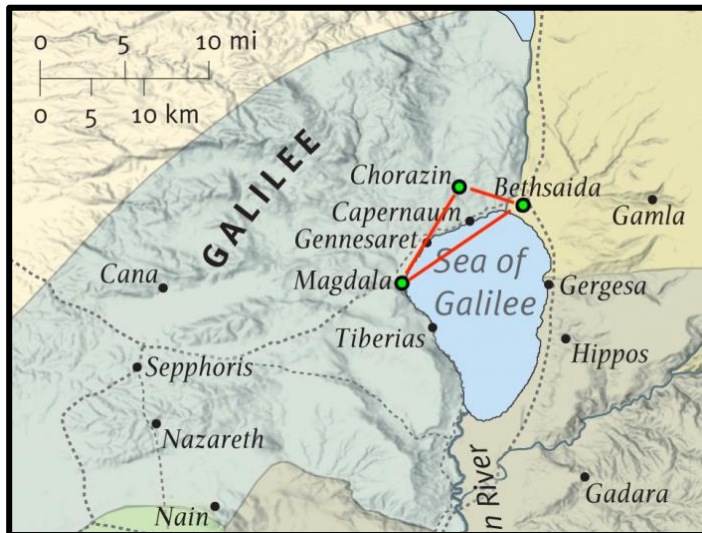
Galatians 5:22 (NIV)

"But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. Against such things there is no law."

- **Which of these is not lived out in the context of relationship?**

✓ Fruit is measured by our capacity to be in relationship with one another:

- **Love** > for whom?
- **Goodness** > passed on to whom?
- **Joy** > demonstrated for whom?
- **Faithfulness** > to whom?
- **Peace** > between whom?
- **Gentleness** > given to whom?
- **Patience** > for whom?
- **Self-control** > to honor whom?
- **Kindness** > shown to whom?



Exodus 20:1-17 - "The Ten Commandments":

- **You shall have no other gods before me** > Breaks relationship... inconsistent with love
- **Make no idols and do not worship them** > Breaks relationship... inconsistent with love
- **Don't misuse the name of God** > Harms relationship... inconsistent with love
- **Remember the Sabbath** > Honors relationship... consistent with love
- **Honor your father and your mother** > Builds relationship... consistent with love
- **Don't murder** > Bad for Relationship, kills relationship... inconsistent with love
- **Don't commit adultery** > Breaks relationship... inconsistent with love
- **Don't steal** > Breaks relationship... inconsistent with love
- **Don't give false testimony against your neighbor** > Breaks relationship... inconsistent with love
- **Don't covet the things that belong to your neighbor** > Harms relationship... inconsistent with love

