

sermonnotes

The DNA of Relationships: Part 4



With the joy and blessing of relationships comes the challenge of restoring broken relationships. Because we are all flawed to some degree, we will have relational challenges that require restoration.

As Christians, we have a responsibility before God to work at restoring broken relationships. Although we cannot force others to reconcile, we must do everything within our means to mend broken relationships.

Romans 12:17–21

Steps to restoring broken relationships

1. Talk to _____ before talking to the person.
 - Seek His guidance.
 - Receive His healing.
2. Always take the _____ to seek restoration. (*Romans 12:18*)
 - “Therefore, if you are offering your gift at the altar and there remember that your brother has something against you, leave your gift there in front of the altar. First go and be reconciled to your brother; then come and offer your gift.” (*Matthew 5:23–24*)

- Forgiveness can happen unilaterally, but restoration requires the participation of both parties.
3. Don’t repay wrong with wrong but choose to give _____ and _____. (*Romans 12:17*)
 4. Humbly take _____ for your part in the conflict. (*Romans 12:18*)
- “First get rid of the log from your own eye; then perhaps you will see well enough to deal with the speck in your friend’s eye.” (*Matthew 7:5 NLT*)
5. Attack the _____, not the person.
- “A gentle response defuses anger, but a sharp tongue kindles a temper-fire.” (*Proverbs 15:1 Message*)

Relationships don’t accidentally stay healthy. They require _____ and a willingness to address the challenges.

Answers: God; initiative; grace, mercy; responsibility; problem; ongoing, investment



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