# Building Relationships to Share the Gospel



Explore how God calls us to build meaningful relationships as a foundation for sharing the gospel effectively.





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#### Introduction

Welcome to this 7-day Bible study on building relationships to share the gospel. In a world that often feels disconnected, Jesus calls us to engage deeply with others, not just to befriend, but to share the life-changing message of His love and salvation. *Relationships are the bridges through which the gospel travels.* Without genuine connection, our words may fall flat, but where trust and love abound, hearts open to the hope found in Christ.

This study will guide you through Scripture passages and reflections that emphasize the importance of intentional relationship-building. We will explore how Jesus Himself invested time in relationships—breaking down barriers, showing compassion, and living out the truth of God's kingdom in real and practical ways.

As you journey through these days, consider how God is calling you to deepen current relationships or build new ones with the purpose of sharing His gospel. This isn't about manipulation or forced conversion; it's about embodying Christ's love and creating safe spaces where the Holy Spirit can move and transform.

Prepare your heart to be both a learner and a servant, willing to listen, empathize, and share your story within the larger story of God's redemption. Strong relationships are not only a blessing to others but also a source of joy and spiritual growth for you. Let's embark on this journey of building gospel-centered relationships together!















#### Your Verse

John 13:34–35 – "A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another."

#### **Supporting Scriptures**

- 1 John 4:7 "Dear friends, let us love one another, for love comes from God."
- Romans 12:10 "Be devoted to one another in love. Honor one another above yourselves."







# Devotional: Loving Others Opens Doors for the Gospel

Love is the foundation of every meaningful relationship. Jesus' command in John 13:34–35 sets the standard for how we should connect: not superficially, but with sacrificial love that mirrors His own. When we build relationships to share the gospel, that love is our greatest witness. Others recognize us as His disciples through our genuine care and unity.

True connections require time, empathy, and intention. The gospel is not just a message; it's a relationship invitation. When we prioritize love over agenda, God opens doors for spiritual conversations naturally. Paul reminds us in Romans 12:10 to honor and devote ourselves to one another, emphasizing the importance of valuing people above tasks or goals.

Today, reflect on your current relationships. Are you loving others in a way that draws them closer to Jesus? Or are your connections surface-level? Ask God to give you a heart that reflects His love, that others might see Christ through you.







# Reflect and Apply

1. How do you currently demonstrate love in your relationships?	
2. In what ways can you show sacrificial love to those around you?	
3. How might deeper love in your relationships create opportunities to share the gospel?	







# **Journaling Prompts**

1.	List three people in your life you want to build deeper relationships with.
2.	Write about a time when love in your relationship opened the door for gospel discussion.
3.	Reflect on areas where God is asking you to grow in love towards others.







#### Prayer for Today

**Dear Lord,** thank You for Your perfect love that enables us to love others genuinely. Help me to show Your love in every relationship I have, so that others might see You through me. Teach me to be patient, kind, and sacrificial in my connections, building bridges that lead to Your gospel. Open my heart and the hearts of those around me to deeper relationship and spiritual growth. *In Jesus' name, Amen.*









# Day 2: Day Listening to Understand









Day 2: Day 2: Listening to Understand

#### Your Verse

James 1:19 – "Everyone should be quick to listen, slow to speak and slow to become angry."

#### **Supporting Scriptures**

- Proverbs 18:13 "To answer before listening—that is folly and shame."
- Ephesians 4:29 "Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths, but only what is helpful for building others up."







Day 2: Estening to Understand

#### Devotional: Listening Well Builds Trust for Sharing

**Listening is one of the most powerful ways to build relationships that lead to gospel sharing.** James 1:19 reminds us to be quick to listen and slow to speak. When we truly listen, we show respect, care, and interest—qualities that create safe spaces for honest conversations.

Often, sharing the gospel can feel intimidating, but God invites us to start by simply hearing others' stories and needs. Proverbs 18:13 warns against responding before understanding, which can shut down dialogue. The attitude behind our words matters immensely. Ephesians 4:29 encourages us to build others up, avoiding words that hurt or push people away.

Practice active listening today. Focus completely on the person you are with, seek to understand their perspective, and respond with grace. This openness can break down walls, making people more receptive to the gospel's transformative message.







Day 2: 💬 Listening to Understand

# Reflect and Apply

1.	How often do you listen fully before responding?
2.	What are some barriers that keep you from listening deeply?
3.	How can you cultivate a habit of listening as a step toward sharing your faith?







Day 2: 💬 Listening to Understand

# **Journaling Prompts**

	Recall a moment when someone truly listened to you — how did it impact you?
	Write down practical ways to improve your listening skills in conversations.
3.	Identify a relationship where you can practice listening better this week.







Day 2: 💬 Listening to Understand

#### Prayer for Today

**Heavenly Father,** thank You for the gift of listening. Help me to be quick to listen and slow to speak, ignoring impulses to judge or interrupt. Teach me to hear others with Your heart, valuing their stories as You do. Give me patience and empathy to build trust through listening, so I can share Your gospel with sensitivity and love. *In Jesus' name, Amen.*







# Day 3: 🗱 Reflecting Christ's Character









Day 3: 🎇 Reflecting Christ's Character

#### Your Verse

Colossians 3:12-14 - "Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience. Bear with each other and forgive one another... And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity."

#### Supporting Scriptures

- Galatians 5:22–23 "But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control."
- Matthew 5:16 "Let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven."







Day 3: 🗱 Reflecting Christ's Character

#### Devotional: Live Out Christ's Love in Relationships

Our relationships serve as living testimonies of Christ's character when we intentionally embody His qualities. Paul urges believers to 'put on' compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience. These virtues, combined with love, create unity and open hearts to the gospel's truth.

The fruit of the Spirit listed in Galatians confirms these attributes. When we display them consistently, we become a light to others, as Jesus described in Matthew 5:16. People don't just hear about Jesus from our words—they see Him in the way we live.

Ask yourself today: Does my behavior reflect Christ in my relationships? Are patience and forgiveness evident even when it's hard? By cultivating these Christlike qualities, you prepare others to receive the gospel not just intellectually, but experientially through love.







Day 3: 🎇 Reflecting Christ's Character

# Reflect and Apply

	Which Christlike qualities do you find easiest to show? Which are most challenging?
2.	How can reflecting Christ's character influence others toward faith?
	What practical steps can you take to 'clothe' yourself in these virtues daily?







Day 3: 🎇 Reflecting Christ's Character

# **Journaling Prompts**

1.	Write about a time when someone's kindness or patience drew you close to God.
2.	List areas in your life needing growth to better reflect Christ's character.
3.	Journal a commitment to develop one fruit of the Spirit through prayer and action.







Day 3: 🗱 Reflecting Christ's Character

#### Prayer for Today

**Lord Jesus,** help me to reflect Your character in every relationship. Clothe me with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience. When I stumble, teach me to forgive quickly and to love deeply. May Your fruit grow abundantly in me, shining as a beacon that leads others to You. Use my life to glorify You in all I say and do. *In Your holy name, Amen.* 















#### Your Verse

Matthew 18:15 – "If your brother or sister sins, go and point out their fault, just between the two of you. If they listen, you have won them over."

#### **Supporting Scriptures**

- Ephesians 4:2-3 "Be completely humble and gentle; be patient, bearing with one another in love. Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace."
- Proverbs 15:1 "A gentle answer turns away wrath, but a harsh word stirs up anger."







#### Devotional: Graceful Conflict Leads to Reconciliation

Conflict is inevitable in relationships, but it need not destroy opportunities to share the gospel. Jesus teaches us in Matthew 18:15 to address issues directly and lovingly. When handled with grace, conflicts can build deeper trust and understanding.

Paul's instructions in Ephesians emphasize humility, gentleness, and patience as keys to maintaining unity. In the midst of disagreement, our response reveals the gospel's power to transform hearts. Proverbs reminds us that a gentle answer diffuses anger, opening doors rather than closing them.

Reflect on how you approach conflict. Do you avoid difficult conversations or address them with grace? God can use even challenging moments to strengthen relationships and witness His reconciling love. Pray for wisdom to navigate conflict biblically and courage to seek peace.







# Reflect and Apply

1.	How do you typically react to conflict in relationships?
	Have you seen conflict strengthen a relationship when handled with grace?
3.	What biblical principles can guide your response during disagreements?







# **Journaling Prompts**

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### **Prayer for Today**

**Father God,** teach me to be humble and gentle when conflicts arise. Help me to listen carefully and respond with patience and love, seeking reconciliation above winning arguments. May my words and actions reflect Your peace and grace, leading others to experience Your forgiveness through me. Guide me to be a peacemaker who honors You. *In Jesus' name, amen.* 















#### Your Verse

Luke 10:38–42 – "Martha came to him and asked, 'Lord, don't you care that my sister has left me to do the work by myself?'... Jesus answered, 'Martha, Martha, you are worried and upset about many things, but few things are needed—or indeed only one. Mary has chosen what is better..."

#### Supporting Scriptures

- Ecclesiastes 3:1 "There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under the heavens."
- Psalm 133:1 "How good and pleasant it is when God's people live together in unity!"







#### Devotional: Presence Is a Gift in Relationship Building

Building strong relationships requires intentional investment of time and presence. Luke 10:38–42 contrasts Martha's distraction with Mary's focused devotion at Jesus' feet. While doing tasks is important, sometimes the greatest gift to others is simply presence and undivided attention.

Ecclesiastes 3:1 reminds us there is a right time for everything. Prioritizing time to be with others shows they are valued beyond productivity. Psalm 133 celebrates the beauty of unity and harmony when God's people dwell closely together.

Today, consider how you allocate your time. Are you present with people, or preoccupied with busyness? Gospel-sharing grows naturally when we invest in people's lives consistently. Let God guide you to create moments of genuine connection and presence.





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Day 5: 🍞 Investing Time and Presence

# Reflect and Apply

1.	How do you balance busyness with being present for others?
2.	When was a time you felt truly valued because someone gave you their full attention?
3.	What practical steps can you take to invest more time in key relationships?







# **Journaling Prompts**

1.	Make a list of people you want to spend more quality time with.
	Write about barriers that prevent you from being fully present and ways to overcome them.
	Plan specific actions to prioritize presence in your relationships this week.







### **Prayer for Today**

**Lord,** life is busy, but I want to be present with those You have placed in my life. Help me to put aside distractions and show love through my time and attention. Teach me to discern the moments that matter and to invest in them fully, so relationships deepen and gospel conversations happen naturally. Thank You for Your presence that sustains me. *Amen.*  $\Sigma$ 















#### Your Verse

Acts 1:8 - "But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses... to the ends of the earth."

#### **Supporting Scriptures**

- 1 Peter 3:15 "Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have."
- Romans 1:16 "I am not ashamed of the gospel, because it is the power of God that brings salvation to everyone who believes."







#### Devotional: Boldly Share Your Hope Through Christ

Once relationships are established through love and trust, God calls us to boldly share our story and the gospel. Acts 1:8 promises the Holy Spirit's power to witness effectively. Your personal testimony is a unique and compelling way to communicate hope.

1 Peter 3:15 encourages believers to be ready to explain their faith gently and clearly. Confidence doesn't come from ourselves but from the Spirit working through us. Paul's declaration in Romans 1:16 reminds us that the gospel is powerful and worth proclaiming without shame.

Reflect on your own faith journey and the hope Jesus has given you. Are you prepared to share this with your relationships? Pray today for courage and wisdom. Remember, your story combined with God's Word is a powerful tool for transformation.







# Reflect and Apply

	What parts of your faith story are you most comfortable sharing? Which parts are difficult?
2.	How does the Holy Spirit empower you to be a witness?
3.	What fears or obstacles keep you from sharing your testimony openly?







# **Journaling Prompts**

1.	Write your testimony focusing on how Jesus has changed your life.
	List common questions or objections you might face and how to respond biblically.
3.	Pray for boldness and faith to share your story this week.







### **Prayer for Today**















#### Your Verse

Matthew 28:19–20 – "Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them... and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always..."

#### **Supporting Scriptures**

- Hebrews 10:24–25 "Let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, not giving up meeting together..."
- Philippians 1:27 "...conduct yourselves in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ."







#### Devotional: Partnering in Gospel Relationships and Ministry

Building relationships and sharing the gospel is a team effort and a lifelong mission. Jesus' Great Commission in Matthew 28:19–20 reminds us that disciple–making involves community, teaching, and continual presence. It's not a solo endeavor but one enriched by partnering with other believers.

Hebrews encourages us to inspire one another and stay connected regularly. Together we motivate, support, and hold each other accountable in faith and mission. Philippians calls us to live worthy of the gospel, reflecting unity and perseverance.

Today, consider how you can join others in this mission. Who can support you in building relationships and sharing the gospel? Pray to be both a giver and receiver of encouragement, committed to the kingdom work God has entrusted to you.







# Reflect and Apply

1.	Who are your spiritual partners in relationship-building and evangelism?
2.	How does community strengthen your ability to share the gospel?
	What steps can you take to engage more deeply with fellow believers in this mission?







# **Journaling Prompts**

1.	List fellow Christians who encourage and challenge you spiritually.
	Reflect on ways to create or join a small group focused on outreach and discipleship.
3.	Write a prayer committing yourself anew to the Great Commission.







#### Prayer for Today

**Lord Jesus,** thank You for calling me into a community of believers to carry out Your mission. Help me to build relationships not just alone but alongside others, spurring one another on to love and good deeds. Give me humility and commitment to obey Your commands and courage to reach those around me with Your gospel. Remind me that You are always with me, guiding every step. *In Your name, Amen.*  $\bigcirc$   $\heartsuit$   $\bigwedge$ 







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