

# RELATIONSHIPS

*The relationship that we have with our heavenly Father, and the relationships that we maintain among ourselves, are not to be taken lightly. The Scriptures speak to both of these relationships in regard to both responsibility and hope!*

## ***We can trust in our relationship with God...***

I am expecting the Lord to rescue me again, so that once again I will see his goodness to me here in the land of the living. Don't be impatient. Wait for the Lord, and he will come and save you! Be brave, stouthearted, and courageous. Yes, wait and he will help you. *Psalms 27:13-14 TLB*

Great is his faithfulness; his loving-kindness begins afresh each day. My soul claims the Lord as my inheritance; therefore I will hope in him. The Lord is wonderfully good to those who wait for him, to those who seek for him. *Lamentations 3:23-25 TLB*

Yes, be bold and strong! Banish fear and doubt! For remember, the Lord your God is with you wherever you go. *Joshua 1:9 TLB*

I will instruct you (says the Lord) and guide you along the best pathway for your life; I will advise you and watch your progress. *Psalms 32:8 TLB*

He will keep in perfect peace all those who trust in him, whose thoughts turn often to the Lord! Trust in the Lord God always, for in the Lord Jehovah is your everlasting strength. *Isaiah 26:3-4 TLB*

## ***God calls us to love, support, and encourage one another...***

God showed how much he loved us by sending his only Son into this wicked world to bring to us eternal life through his death. In this act we see what real love is: it is not our love for God but his love for us when he sent his Son to satisfy God's anger against our sins. Dear friends, since God

loved us as much as that, we surely ought to love each other too.  
*1 John 4:9-11 TLB*

Love each other with brotherly affection and take delight in honoring each other. Never be lazy in your work, but serve the Lord enthusiastically. Be glad for all God is planning for you. Be patient in trouble, and prayerful always. When God's children are in need, you be the one to help them out. And get into the habit of inviting guests home for dinner or, if they need lodging, for the night. *Romans 12:10-13 TLB*

And let us not get tired of doing what is right, for after a while we will reap a harvest of blessing if we don't get discouraged and give up. That's why whenever we can we should always be kind to everyone, and especially to our Christian brothers. *Galatians 6:9-10 TLB*

### ***God calls us to forgive others...***

Stop being mean, bad-tempered, and angry. Quarreling, harsh words, and dislike of others should have no place in your lives. Instead, be kind to each other, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, just as God has forgiven you because you belong to Christ. *Ephesians 4:31-32 TLB*

Follow God's example in everything you do just as a much loved child imitates his father. Be full of love for others, following the example of Christ who loved you and gave himself to God as a sacrifice to take away your sins. And God was pleased, for Christ's love for you was like sweet perfume to him. *Ephesians 5:1-2 TLB*

But when you are praying, first forgive anyone you are holding a grudge against, so that your Father in heaven will forgive you your sins too.  
*Mark 11:25 TLB*

Remember that the man I wrote about, who caused all the trouble, has not caused sorrow to me as much as to all the rest of you--though I certainly have my share in it too. I don't want to be harder on him than I should. He has been punished enough by your united disapproval. Now it is time to forgive him and comfort him. Otherwise he may become so bitter and discouraged that he won't be able to recover. Please show him now that you still do love him very much. *2 Corinthians 2:5-8 TLB*