

Objectives: To understand the importance of church relationships and how to walk in church relationships.

Introduction: Proper church relationships are key to our Christian walk. We must seek to maintain a spirit of unity, love, care and concern for all participants in the house of God. This must be addressed in terms of male & male, female & female, male & female and lay leader & lay member. ^{HORIZONTAL}

I. Church relationships...

a - Love each other... ^{BASICALLY 4 WAYS}

- by serving ^{SOME FROM CHURCH SERVING ONE ANOTHER}
 - John 13:1-17
 - Gal 5:13-14
 - Col 3:22-24
 - Eph 6:5-8
 - MAT 20:20-28
 - PHM 2:5-8
- by caring ^{GENUINE CONCERN THAT LEADS TO ACTION}
 - Lk 10:25-39
 - Lk 6:31
 - Matt 22:39
 - I Cor 12:25
 - Rom 12:10
 - I Pet 3:8
- by praying ^{TIME 1:2 PRAY FOR PHIL 1:9 PRAY FOR EPH 1:16 PRAY FOR}
 - Heb 13:18
 - I Tim 2:1-2
 - II The 3:1
 - II Cor 1:11
 - Eph 6:18-19
 - Col 4:2
 - Phil 1:19
 - I The 1:12
 - Phm 22
- keep the peace ^{FROM THE HEART}
 - I Cr 14:33
 - Rom 12:18
 - Ps 34:14
 - Gal 5:22
 - Matt 5:9
 - Eph 4:1-3

b - Appreciate each other... ^{BASICALLY 3 WAYS}

- never fault find ^{YOU CAN FIND FAULTS BUT NOT FAULT FIND}
 - Matt 7:1-5
 - GAL 5:15
- look to good ^{LOOK}
 - Phil 2:3-4
 - I Cor 12:23-26
- every member ^{NO FAVORITISM}
 - James 2:1-9
 - I Cor 12:21-26
 - Deut 16:19-20
 - PV 24:23-26

c - Edify each other... ^{BASICALLY 4 WAYS}

- encourage ^{PHIL 1:10}
 - Acts 28:14-15
 - Acts 18:23
 - Heb 10:24-25
- compliment ^{GET TALK}
 - Prov 27:2
 - Rom 15:2
 - Phil 2:4
- testifying ^{1957:123}
 - Rev 12:11
 - Acts 20:20-21
 - III Jn 3-9
- support weak ^{ALL THINGS}
 - Acts 20:35
 - Gal 6:1-3
 - Rom 15:1-2

d - Respect leadership in the church...

- authority
 - I Pet 2:13-17
 - Rom 13:1-4
 - Acts 23:5
 - Numbers 12
- support ^{PRAY FOR}
 - I The 5:12-13
 - Heb 13:7-17
 - I Tim 5:17-19
 - Ex 17:11-12
- elders (older) ^{RESPECT}
 - I Tim 5:1-3
 - I Pet 5:5
 - Phm 16:3

Church Relationships

Memory verse... John 13:35

d - No oughts..

- go to them

Matt 18:15

Gal 2:11-14

Rom 15:14

- forgive them

Matt 18:21-39

Eph 4:32, Col 3:13

II Cor 2:10

- be restored

Matt 5:23-24

Gal 6:1-2

II Cor 2:6-8

e - Not to cause error...

- perception

Rom 14:14-16

Acts 24:16

III Jn 12

Eph 4:27

- watchful protection

Acts 19:28-31

Prov 27:5

Prov 27:17

Eccl 4:12

- tongue

4 Prov 16:28

2 Prov 18:8

1 Gal 5:15

3 Prov 6:16-19

- respect other walks

Matt 18:7

Rom 14:13

- boundaries

Eccl 3:1-8

Luke 6:31

I Cor 8:9-13

- genuine/sensitive

Matt 7:1-5

Rom 15:1-2

Acts 16:9-10

Conclusion: There should be no reason why every Christian can't fellowship together, love each other and support each other. We are family and have the same spirit, same saviour and same spiritual goals. By accomplishing godly relational objectives, we help each other grow in Christ, & by the unbelievers seeing our corporate love, they will be drawn to receive the love and saving knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Participatory review:

- Explain the importance of church relationships.
- Explain how to have Christian interaction one with another.
- Explain some distracters that can hinder relationships.
- How do we respect the leadership of the church?
- Can and should all Christians have fruitful relationships?

Key terms: schism, support, perception, appreciation, edify