# **RESPONSIBLE RELATIONSHIPS**

A mature Christian is faithful in relationships. They honour marriage and are fully attentive to their family responsibilities. They value friendship and can be relied on as faithful and loving neighbours. They honour and care for the poor and vulnerable. They cultivate relational-awareness and strive to bring peace where there is tension and conflict.



## **CHARACTER TO CULTIVATE**

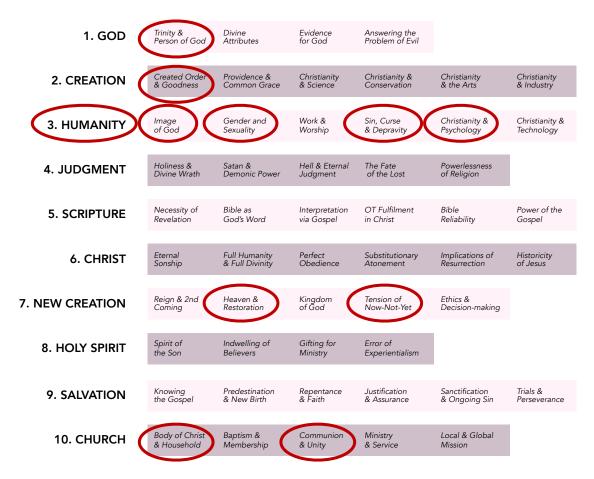
AFFECTIONS	O2 In what ways are you experiencing  LOVE FOR PEOPLE, valuing relationships above objects.  DELIGHT IN GOD'S RIGHT ORDERING, for relationships.	Q3 What false idols might be getting in the way?
THOUGHTS	O3 How is God helping you to develop  PURE MINDEDNESS, guarding thoughts, fleeing temptation.  PEACEABLENESS, thinking graciously of others.	Q5 What unhelpful thinking is tripping you up?
PRAYERS	O6 Do you experience  HOUSEHOLD PRAYER, praying together regularly.  PRAYER FOR NEEDY, upholding the poor and vulnerable.	Q7 What makes it hard for you to pray this way?
BEHAVIOURS	Q7 Are you seeing growth in these marks of godliness  FAMILY FAITHFULNESS, honouring all family responsibilities.  GODLY NEIGHBOURING, time spent befriending & serving.	Q9 In what contexts is this hardest for you?
TRAINING	S EXPERIENCES	
5.1	READ & DISCUSS  Work through a recommended Bible study or book, planning accountability & action steps.	
5.2	REFLECTION ON RESPONSIBLE RELATIONSHIPS  Listen to messages on Responsible Relationships and reflect on your own relational maturity.	
5.3	REFLECTION ON LIFE STAGES  Listen to messages on the five Life Stages and use the exercises to reflect on your own responsibilities.	
5.4		



Having purified your souls by your obedience to the truth for a sincere brotherly love, love one another earnestly from a pure heart.

1 PETER 1:22

### CONVICTIONS TO DEVELOP



#### RESOURCES FOR DISCIPLESHIP

#### **BIBLE STUDIES**



**Bible Books to Read and Carefully Meditate on**GENESIS 1-3, MATTHEW 5-7,
PROVERBS, ECCLESIASTES



<u>The Beginning of Wisdom</u> (Proverbs, Matthias Media) Shows the way in to book of Proverbs, unlocking a wealth of wisdom for the right ordering of relationships.



<u>The Search for Meaning</u> (Ecclesiastes, Matthias Media)

An exploration of the riddles of life, revealing the patterns and structures of God's wisdom in creation.



The Man Who Makes a Difference (Manhood, M/Media)
A portrait of manhood shaped by the scriptures and the call of Jesus to lay down our lives in service of others.



**Woman of God** (Womanhood, Matthias Media)
Topical studies exploring a Biblical view of womanhood, inspired by the godly women of scripture.

#### **BOOKS & ARTICLES**



Six Steps to Encouragement (Gordon Cheng)

DVD based units, great for small groups, introducing the ministry of Christian encouragement, step by step.



The Heart of Singleness (Andrea Trevenna)

Biblical and pastoral wisdom on having a God honouring marriage.



 $\underline{\textbf{This Momentary Marriage}} \text{ (John Piper)}$ 

Biblical and pastoral wisdom on having a God honouring marriage.



**Gospel-Centred Family** (Tim Chester)

A call away from the idols of middle class, to be families that truly serve the cause of Jesus.



**Give Them Grace** (Parenting, Fitzpatrick & Thompson) An exhortation to gospel-shaped parenting, so that the grace of God pervades the home and heart.