



# LIGHTHOUSE LESSONS

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***"...Let God Be Magnified."***

~ Psalm 70:4 (KJV)

# Spiritual Relationships

**Would you choose to help someone who had mistreated you?**

*"But God commendeth His love toward us,  
in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us."*

Romans 5:8

God reached out to us while we were His enemies.  
What an amazing example of sacrificial love!

This study looks at how we can express God's love in various relationships.



## Relating to God

### ► KNOW God

*"Thus saith the Lord, Let not the wise man glory in his wisdom,  
neither let the mighty man glory in his might,  
let not the rich man glory in his riches:  
But let him that glorieth glory in this, that he understandeth and **knoweth** me, that  
I am the Lord which exercise lovingkindness, judgment, and righteousness, in the earth:  
for in these things I delight, saith the Lord."*

Jeremiah 9:23-24

- ❖ **Circle three** things we should **not** "glory" in.
- ❖ **Underline** what the Lord wants us to "glory" in.

Knowing God enables us to see our blessings and our hardships from His perspective.  
This brings **meaning** and **fulfillment** to life.

### ► LOVE God

*"For this is the love of God, that we keep His commandments:  
and His commandments are not grievous."* 1 John 5:3

- ❖ **Circle** how we show our love for God.
- ❖ **Underline** what God's commandments are **not**.

God's commands are not a burden when we realize they were designed for our  
**protection** and **provision**.



### ► SERVE God


*"No man can **serve** two masters: for  
**either** he will hate the one, and love the other;  
**or else** he will hold to the one, and despise the other.  
Ye cannot serve God and mammon [money]."*  
Matthew 6:24

- ❖ **Underline two** examples of what happens when we try to "serve two masters."

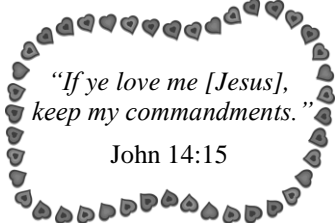


When you **KNOW** God, you will **LOVE** Him.  
And when you **LOVE** Him, you will want to **SERVE** Him.

*If you don't want to **Serve** God, maybe it is because you don't really **Love** Him.  
And if you don't **Love** God, maybe it is because you don't really **Know** Him.*

 "Do not  
have your  
concert first and tune your  
instruments afterward.  
**Begin the day with God.**"

~ Hudson Taylor

 "If ye love me [Jesus],  
keep my commandments."  
John 14:15

"God gave you a gift of  
**86,400 seconds** today.



Have you used  
one to say,  
**"Thank you?"**

~ William Ward

*"But seek ye **FIRST**  
the kingdom of God, and  
His righteousness;  
and **all** these things  
shall be added unto you."*

Matthew 6:33

## Relating to Authorities

### ► Parents

*"...A wise son maketh a glad father: but a foolish son is the heaviness of his mother."*  
Proverbs 10:1


- ❖ **Underline** what makes a "glad father."  
We please our parents by obeying them, making wise choices, etc.

*"Children, obey your parents in the Lord: for this is right.  
Honor thy father and mother; which is the first commandment with promise;  
That it may be well with thee, and thou mayest live long on the earth."*  
Ephesians 6:1-3

- ❖ **Circle** why children should obey their parents.  
Obedience to parents and other authorities is always right—*unless they ask you to disobey God.* (Acts 5:28-29)
- ❖ **Underline two** rewards for honoring your parents.  
These blessings make it worth the effort to honor your parents.

### ► Officials

*"For he is the minister [servant] of God to thee for good.  
But if thou do that which is evil, be afraid; for he beareth not the sword in vain:  
for he is the minister of God, a revenger to execute wrath upon him that doeth evil."*  
Romans 13:4

- ❖ **Underline two** times that the "minister of God" is mentioned.  
 God established all our authorities, which is why He calls them His ministers.
  - ◆ When we do what is right, we do not need to be afraid of *God's servants.*
  - ◆ For example, you only get a speeding ticket if you exceed the speed limit!

*"I exhort therefore, that, first of all,  
supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks,  
be made for all men; For kings, and for **all that are in authority**;  
that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and honesty."*  
1 Timothy 2:1-2

- ❖ **Circle four** things we should do for our authorities.  
Instead of complaining about your authorities, try praying for them.

### ► Employers

*"And whatsoever ye do, do it heartily, as to the Lord, and not unto men;  
Knowing that of the Lord ye shall receive the reward of the inheritance:  
for ye serve the Lord Christ."*  
Colossians 3:23-24

- ❖ **Underline how** we are to do our work.
- ❖ **Circle who** we really "serve."

Working "**heartily**" means doing your best even if your boss is not watching. Your goal is to please Christ—who sees everything!



**"Your best resume is not what you write, but how you live."**  
~ Unknown

*"Honor thy father and  
thy mother, as the Lord thy God  
hath commanded thee; that thy  
days may be **PROLONGED**, and  
that it may **GO WELL** with thee,  
in the land which the  
Lord thy God giveth thee."*

Deuteronomy 5:16  
*The Fifth Commandment*

"When I **SUBMIT**  
to the leaders God  
places over me, I do  
so not in **trust of them**,  
but in **trust of God** who  
placed them.



▽ My trust is not that  
they will always make the  
**right decisions**, but rather,  
that God is able to work in  
their hearts and in my life  
**even in their mistakes.**

▽ The bottom line of  
submission on every level is  
not '**Can I trust this leader,**  
but '**Can I trust God** to work  
in, through, and in spite of  
this leader?'"

~ Eddie Rasnake



*"Let every soul be subject  
unto the higher powers. For  
there is no power but of God:  
**the powers that be are  
ordained of God.**"*

Romans 13:1



“**Opportunity** is missed  
by most people because  
it is dressed in overalls  
and looks like **WORK.**”  
~ Thomas Edison

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## Relating to Christians



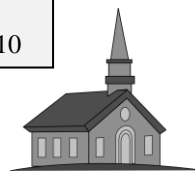
- **Coals** burn hotter and longer when they are piled together.  
When one coal is separated from the other coals, it soon becomes cold.
- In the same way, **Christians** who join together in spiritual fellowship will **stoke** one another's faith in God, and **in flame** each other's love for Him!

*"And let us consider **one another** to provoke unto love and to good works:  
Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is;  
but exhorting **one another**: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching."*  
Hebrews 10:24-25

- ❖ **Underline two** things we should do for "**one another**."  
We often find it easier to criticize, shame, or judge another person who does not measure up to our standards. But God asks us to encourage those who are struggling.
- ❖ **Circle** what we should **not** forsake (or neglect).  
It is important to regularly attend a church that teaches God's Word.

*"As we have therefore opportunity, let us do good unto all men,  
especially unto them who are of the household of faith."* Galatians 6:10

- ❖ **Circle** the people for whom we should especially "**do good**."  
God wants us to make it a priority to help other Christians.



## Relating to Others

*"Look not every man on his own things,  
but every man also on the things of others."* Philippians 2:4

- ❖ **Circle** whose interests we **should** look out for.

*"Rejoice with them that do rejoice, and  
weep with them that weep."* Romans 12:15

- ❖ **Underline** what we should do with those who "**rejoice**."
- ❖ **Circle** what we should do with those who "**weep**."

Rejoicing with those who rejoice can be especially difficult when you were hoping for the same thing yourself.



**? What if your friend got a promotion or special recognition and you didn't?**

**Congratulate** your friend and **thank** God for all the blessings He has given you.



**Write what these verses say to do for "one another."**

**JOHN 15:12** "This is My commandment, that ye \_\_\_\_\_ **one another**, as I have loved you."

**EPHESIANS 4:32** "And be ye \_\_\_\_\_ **one to another**, tenderhearted [compassionate], \_\_\_\_\_ **one another** even as God for Christ's sake hath forgiven you."

**COLOSSIANS 3:13** "\_\_\_\_\_ **one another**, and \_\_\_\_\_ **one another**, if any man have a quarrel against any: even as Christ forgave you, so also do ye."

**1 THESSALONIANS 5:11** "Wherefore comfort yourselves together and \_\_\_\_\_ **one another**, even as also ye do."

**? What are some ways to **encourage** your Christian friends?**



"It is the mark of a **hypocrite** to be a Christian everywhere but home."

~ Robert Murray McChesney

**? How can you become more **involved** in your local church?**

*"And as ye would that men  
should do to you,  
do ye also to them likewise."*

Luke 6:31

"If I am not satisfied with what I **HAVE**,

I will never be satisfied with what I **WANT**."

~ Ralph Guthrie

*"See that none render  
evil for evil unto any man;  
but ever follow  
that which is good,  
both among yourselves,  
and to all men."*

1 Thessalonians 5:15

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## ► Friends

*"Make no friendship with an angry man; and with a furious man thou shalt not go:  
Lest thou learn his ways, and get a snare to thy soul."*  
Proverbs 22:24-25

- ❖ **Circle** *two* types of people we should **not** choose for friends.
- ❖ **Underline** what may happen after spending time with angry people.



*"He that walketh with wise men shall be wise:  
but a companion of fools shall be destroyed."*

Proverbs 13:20

- ❖ **Circle** what happens when you walk with wise people.
- ❖ **Underline** what happens to a "companion of fools."

These verses from Proverbs show the importance of choosing friends wisely.  
*Our friends influence us more than we realize.*

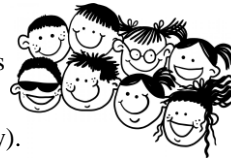
*"Be not deceived: evil communications corrupt [destroy] good manners."*  
1 Corinthians 15:33

- ❖ **Circle** what we should **not** be.

Deceived means to be led away from truth. Scripture frequently warns about the dangers of going our own way—instead of God's way.

- ❖ **Underline** what is corrupted by "evil communications" (bad company).

**Do not be deceived!** We become like the company we keep! If our goal is to be more like Christ, then we must spend time with Christians who are growing spiritually.



*"You will be the same **five years** from now as you are today except for **two things**,*



- the books you read, and
- the friends you make."

~ Charles "Tremendous" Jones

## ► Enemies

*"But I [Jesus] say unto you which hear, Love your enemies,  
do good to them which hate you,  
Bless them that curse you, and  
pray for them which despitefully use you."* Luke 6:27-28

- ❖ **Underline** *four* ways Jesus said to respond to those who mistreat us.
  - ◆ These are not natural or easy responses. But if we ask, God will give us the ability.
  - ◆ This lesson began with Jesus' example of loving His enemies enough to die for them.

Corrie ten Boom (a Holocaust survivor) said:

**"When He tells us to love our enemies,  
He gives along with the command, the love itself."**

- ~ Several years after Corrie's release from Ravensbruck concentration camp, one of the cruelest Ravensbruck guards asked her to forgive him.
- ~ With God's help, Corrie was able to **forgive her former prison guard**.

## APPLICATION



List ways you can show **God's love** to someone who did not treat you well.

*"Associate  
yourself with people  
of good quality, for it is  
**better to be ALONE**  
**than in bad company.***

~ Booker T. Washington

*"A friend  
loveth at all times...."*

Proverbs 17:17

**?** What are specific ways that unwise friends **corrupt** good character?

**"BITTERNESS** is like drinking poison and expecting the **other person** to die."

~ Unknown

*"Do I not destroy  
my enemies when I  
make them my **friends**?"*

~ Abraham Lincoln

## PRAYER

*Father, I am grateful  
You love me and provided  
an example of how to  
love others. Enable me  
to relate to those around  
me as You would. Amen.*

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