

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 16, 2025

RELATIONSHIP DYNAMICS

SESSION TWO



Summary – Session one


- A. Relationship dynamics are the behavioral patterns that are displayed by people when we relate, interact or communicate with each other.
- B. An understanding of the causes and effects that play out in our relationships, positions us for positive outcomes. It helps us see what is happening, so that we can address it for change, or appreciate it and invite more of it into our lives. Then we can effectively manage the challenges we encounter and deal with ourselves and others with greater compassion. We will then experience more love and fulfilment in our everyday life. (*Colosians 3:13*)

SESSION OBJECTIVES

TO USE BIBILICAL EXAMPLES OF NEGATIVE RELATIONSHIPS TO
OVERCOME TODAY'S CHALLENGES.



TO BECOME MORE SENSITIVE TO THE NEGATIVE PATTERNS THAT
CAUSE THE BREAKDOWN OF FAMILY RELATIONSHIPS, FRIENDSHIPS,
ACQUAINTANCES, WORK AND "SITUATIONSHIPS"
(specific circumstance which connects people in a state of affairs)



Ephesians 4:2-3

FACT CHECK the CLIMARE OF YOUR RELATIONSHIP

(Students to read aloud)

1ST Corinthians 13

Proverbs 17:17

Ephesians 4:32

Ecclesiastes 4:9

Did you measure up? If not let get
working.....

Why Do We Study the Bible Relationships

The Bible Provides Guidance for Building and Maintaining Relationships:

- The Bible offers practical advice on how to build healthy relationships, emphasizing qualities like love, kindness, patience, and forgiveness.
- Stories like the parable of the Good Samaritan or the teachings of Jesus on loving one's neighbor can encourage compassion and empathy in our interactions with others
- The Bible also addresses specific relational challenges, such as conflict resolution, forgiveness, and dealing with betrayal, providing principles for navigating difficult situations.

The Bible Stories Reflect Human Interact with each other:

- The Bible acknowledges that human relationships are complex and often messy, reflecting the struggles and joys of real life.
- The stories of individuals like [Jacob](#) or [Peter](#), who make mistakes and experience change, can offer hope and encouragement to those who are struggling with their own relational challenges.
- By sharing relatable stories of human connection, the Bible fosters a sense of community and allows individuals to find common ground with others in their faith journey.

BIBLICAL INSIGHTS OF BAD RELATIONSHIPS

Character Discussion



SAMPSON AND DELILAH

(Judges 16)

The relationship between Samson and Delilah describes the hazard of **deception and manipulation**. Delilah, pressured by the Philistine leaders, cunningly manipulated Samson by persuading him to reveal the secret of his strength—his uncut hair.

Samson, blinded by his affection for Delilah, fell victim to her deceit, ultimately leading to his downfall when his hair was cut, resulting in his capture and suffering.

Their relationship provides a concrete illustration of how being deceived and manipulated within a relationship can have harmful consequences.

This underscores the need for discernment and caution when dealing with deceitful intentions, and urges individuals to be vigilant and wise in their interactions.

Deceitful Intentions: **Proverbs 26:24-26; 1st Peter 2:1**

Manipulation: **Matthew 7:15 2nd Cor. 11:13**

Discuss the words meaning. Confess the spirit. Repent of its use.

BIBLICAL INSIGHTS OF BAD RELATIONSHIPS

Character Discussion

Hannah and Peninnah

Han (1 Samuel 1)

Hannah and Peninnah within the story of Elkanah highlight the pain originating from **jealousy and resentment** between co-wives. Elkanah, their husband, favored Hannah, who initially faced infertility, while Peninnah had children.

The Bible recounts how Peninnah taunted Hannah relentlessly, provoking her sorrow and exacerbating her anguish (1 Samuel 1:6-7). Peninnah's actions, born out of **jealousy and rivalry, created a toxic atmosphere within their shared household.**

Their story serves as a keen portrayal of the emotional toll and suffering brought about by grudges and contention within family relationships.

It brings to light the significance of empathy, understanding, and mutual respect in navigating relationships, especially in scenarios involving multiple spouses.

This sheds light on the detailed dynamics within relationships, emphasizing the damaging effects of favoritism, resentment, and jealousy.

It serves as a caution, urging individuals to foster an environment of equality, sympathy, and respect within their relationships to mitigate the potential for emotional distress and discord.

JEALOUSY: Proverbs 26:24-26; 1st Peter 2:1

RIVALRY: Exodus 20:17; Proverbs 27:4; James 3:16

Discuss the words meaning. Confess the spirit. Repent of its use.

REVIEW LESSON 2

RELATIONSHIP DYNAMICS

SESSION TWO

CONTINUED

https://youtu.be/tV-GEp5PAcQ?si=afc5L5RVdgn0_81y

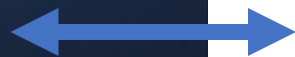
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BIBLICAL INSIGHTS OF BAD RELATIONSHIPS

Character Discussion



Rehoboam and His Subjects

(1 Kings 12)

Rehoboam's reign is a story of leadership, **pride**, and division in the kingdom of Israel. He inherited a nation burdened by his father's shortcomings, but his own actions and attitudes worsened the tensions with his subjects, leading to the kingdom's fragmentation.

In the book of 1 Kings, Rehoboam becomes king after Solomon's death. The people request relief from taxes and labor. Rehoboam asks for advice from both his father's elder advisors and his younger companions.

Rehoboam ignored the wisdom of his father's counselors and adopted a harsh and authoritarian stance towards the people. This **incited rebellion among the northern tribes of Israel**.

The tribes of Israel led by Jeroboam refused to submit to Rehoboam's rule due to oppression. This led to the **division** of the kingdom of Israel, with Rehoboam reigning over Judah and Benjamin, while Jeroboam became the king of the northern tribes.

PRIDE:

[Proverbs 16:5](#)

DIVISION:

[1 Corinthians 1:10-13](#); [JUDE 1:16-19](#)

Discuss the words meaning. Confess the spirit. Repent of its use.

BIBLICAL INSIGHTS OF BAD RELATIONSHIPS

Character Discussion

JACOB, LEAH AND RACHEL

(Genesis 29,20)

The complex relationship between Jacob, Leah, and Rachel deeply gives knowledge of **favoritism, contention, and the outcome of deception**. Jacob, initially in love with Rachel, negotiated with her father, Laban, for her hand in marriage.

However, due to Laban's **deceit**, Jacob ends up marrying Leah, Rachel's older sister, before Rachel. This deception laid the foundation for **favoritism and conflicts between the sisters**.

Jacob's greater affection for Rachel than Leah caused **deep-seated discord**, leading to a competition between the sisters to win Jacob's love. The **bitterness** of this contention and favoritism became evident in the **ongoing tension and longing for validation between Leah and Rachel**.

Their story underscores the destructive impact of favoritism, manipulation, and contention within familial relationships. It serves as a serious reminder of the emotional turmoil and discord that can arise when love and validation are unequally distributed, fostering an atmosphere of **resentment and competition**.

DISCORD : Proverbs 6:19; Titus 3:10-11; Romans 16:17

RESENTMENT: Ephesians 4:31-32

Discuss the words meaning. Confess the spirit. Repent of its use.

BIBLICAL INSIGHTS OF BAD RELATIONSHIPS

Character Discussion DISCORD

Proverbs 6:19; Titus 3:10-11

Romans 16:17

RESENTMENT:

Ephesians 4:31-32

**Discuss the words meaning;
Confess the spirit;
Repent of its use.**

Ahab, king of Israel, and Jezebel

(1 Kings 21)

Ahab, king of Israel, and Jezebel, daughter of Sidonian king Ethbaal, had a destructive relationship. Their story is a cautionary tale about power, corruption, and idolatry in the books of 1 and 2 Kings. Ahab's marriage to Jezebel was a political alliance between Israel and Sidon. But Jezebel's influence had negative consequences for Israel. Jezebel introduced the worship of Baal and Asherah in the Israelite court, promoting the false gods and eradicating the worship of Yahweh (1 Kings 16:31-33). Under Jezebel's influence, Ahab not only tolerated but also participated in the worship of Baal, erecting altars and temples dedicated to the pagan deity throughout the land. This blatant disregard for the commandments of God led to widespread idolatry and moral decay among the Israelites, provoking divine judgment upon the nation. Ahab's subservience to Jezebel is evident throughout their reign, as he not only condones but also actively participates in her schemes and wickedness. His failure to exercise moral leadership and uphold the covenant with God ultimately led to his downfall and the demise of his dynasty.

The relationship between Ahab and Jezebel serves as a sobering reminder of the destructive influence of power, pride, and spiritual compromise. Their partnership led Israel astray from God, resulting in divine judgment and the eventual destruction of their dynasty.

CONCLUSION

CONCLUSION

1. **How do bad relationships in the Bible serve as cautionary tales?**
[Bad relationships in the Bible](#) illustrate the consequences of actions like jealousy, deceit, and disobedience, providing valuable lessons for readers to learn from and avoid repeating.
2. **What lessons can we learn from the bad relationships in the Bible?**
These stories teach us about the importance of honesty, communication, forgiveness, and obedience in relationships, as well as the destructive consequences of jealousy, betrayal, and selfishness.
3. **What role do forgiveness and reconciliation play in the context of bad relationships in the Bible?**
Forgiveness and reconciliation are often portrayed as crucial elements in [healing broken relationships](#), as seen in stories like Joseph forgiving his brothers and the prodigal son being welcomed back by his father.
4. What do you understand by a “TOXIC” relationship

CONCLUSION

THERE IS HOPE

Despite the darkness depicted in these narratives, there is also hope. The Bible is not merely a record of human failures but also a testament to God's redemptive power and grace.

Even in [brokenness](#) and despair, God offers forgiveness, restoration, and the promise of a new beginning. So as we navigate our own relationships, may we learn from both the successes and failures of those who have gone before us.

May we seek to cultivate honesty, humility, and love in our interactions with others, recognizing that true fulfillment and flourishing come from relationships grounded in faith, integrity, and mutual respect.

Watch Video - <https://youtu.be/EZMjj7u5PwU?si=f5xsobrAG7yInWdJ>