

Big Idea

Blayde Eberly – Part 3

We continued the series entitled **“It’s Complicated.”** Relationships get complicated when we step outside God’s plan. In this third part of the series, Blayde shared with us the importance of relationships and what needs to be put in place to have them. Truth is that people want and need connection. They need real friends. But even more than wanting friends and relationships, we must have healthy relationships. Blayde said that the number one cause of death in relationships is this - heart disease. Every area of our lives intersects with what is going on in our heart. How do we know the condition of our heart? You can examine your life and your spiritual health and measure it by what are you speaking!

Here are 4 questions young people asked which help us discover God-honoring relationships. **1) Is there a way to fight or disagree in a healthy way? 2) How do I get out of an unhealthy (not God honoring) relationship? 3) How can I be open to new relationships? 4) What does a healthy relationship look like?** For each question, Blayde gave us a key word for each question – **Surrender, Boundaries, Eternity and Love** – and they summarize how healthy relationships are found and maintained through the cross! **In order for relationships to work, let the One who designed them define them.**

Discussion Questions

- How important are relationships to you?
- How have words impacted your relationships? Discuss this.
- What does God say about words and the heart according to Proverbs 4:23?
- How do the four key words help us maintain God-honoring relationships through the cross of Jesus Christ?

Prayer Focus

Invite Jesus to be involved in all aspects of your life, especially your marriage and key relationships. Thank Him for the good aspects of your relationships, and pray for His guidance in areas where you are struggling. Give everything to God and ask for His help as you continue to improve how you love and invest in the people in your life.

Next Steps

Assess your relationships with those closest to you, and identify ways to improve these relationships. Be intentional with your words and consider how you can better show your love for them. Consider serving together on the Dream Team. Step Three of the Growth Track is your opportunity to get connected to an area of the team that fits your interests and abilities..

Leader Tip

Pray for your group members by name every day. If anyone in your group is struggling with their relationships, contact them this week to encourage and pray with them. If you have room in your group, encourage your group members to invite a friend who needs to be connected in healthy community.