

Teaching - Part 1

Relational Maturity begins with God calling us into Stages and Spheres of Relationship

- Personal Relationship and Human Community because of a Relational God
 - *Hesed* and *Agape* – God is always moving toward people
 - Family (Gen 1-5), Tribe (Gen 12-50), Nation (Exodus– Malachi), Movement (Gospels/Acts), Church (Acts – Epistles)
 - Presence (bond and connection), Pleasure (delight and enjoyment), Preference (freedom and mutuality)

- Stages of Relational Maturity

- Dependence	↔	Independence	↔	Interdependence
- Childhood ↔		Teen/Young Adult ↔		Adulthood
- Developing ↔		Established		↔ Energizing

 - *Codependence*

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- The Relational Spheres of Jesus
 - Jesus
 - Peter, James and John
 - Apostles
 - Disciples
 - Followers
 - Crowds
 - Opposition

Exercise 1

Broken Relationships

- Where in Genesis 3 do you see the origins of all broken relationships?
- Where do you see the aftermath of Genesis 3 playing out in our world today?

Spheres of Influence

- List out a variety of relational spheres that you're part of
- Assess the **quantity** of relational time (high/low) invested in those relationships.
- Assess the **quality** of relational investment (high/low) you're making in those relationships.

Teaching - Part 2

Relational Maturity requires developing relational skills while adding value in all directions

- Social/Emotional Maturity (Fruit of the Spirit) in:
 - **Roles** // Functional: one (or both) of us provides a function to the other
 - **Responsibilities** // Transactional: one (or both) of us is intrinsically motivated to function together
 - **Relationships** // Mutual: both of us **loves** the other and **trusts** them to function
- Mapping Relationships & Assessing My Impact
 - Biological - relationships we don't get to choose (Family, *In-Laws*)
 - Preferential - relationships that are ours to determine (Friends and Social Circles)
 - Local Normal - relationships based on proximity and affinity (Neighborhood, Workplace, Bloomington-Normal)
 - Global - relationships with those you may never meet (Humanity at large)

Exercise 2

Relational Map & Audit

- Where am I deepening connections and making relational investments in 2020?
- Do any particular relationships require healing, forgiveness and/or reconciliation in 2020?
- Am I currently 'adding value' in all directions?