How Our Relationships with Others Affect Our Experience with God

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Complete this viewer guide as you watch the video for session 1.

Our **vertical** connection with the Lord is expressed in our **horizontal** relationships with one another.

When God knows He can flow **through** you, He’s much more interested in flowing **to** you.

God wants His nature to permeate His children so that we touch **others** in the same way we want God to touch **us**.

How you bless **others** positions you for how God blesses you.

If you have a need, you must plant a **seed**.

The *it* in Luke 6:38 is an *it* of **ministry**, not an *it* of money or an *it* of me.

The reason God emphasizes giving is to remove **selfishness**.

The principle is: give to **give**, and you get, not give to get. Give to minister.

*Horizontal Jesus* has to do with our relationship with Christ connecting and manifesting itself in our **relationships** with others.

Whenever you go to God to do something for you, tell Him how it will be a **blessing** to somebody else.

Everybody can minister to **somebody**.
Complete this viewer guide as you watch the video for session 2.

Love is compassionately and righteously seeking the well-being of others.

The way you grow in discipleship is to grow in love.

Biblical love has within it the power to change you.

In our spiritual family there ought to be connections of love where people are compassionately and righteously caring for the spiritual enhancement of one another.

When you forget God’s love for you, you’re not going to exercise God’s love for others through you.

If you are a loveless saint, that means your relationship with God is out of whack.

In the family of God, time must be spent in cultivating a loving atmosphere where people care about people in a righteous way.

A loving flock will draw people into the family of God.

If there is no compassionate and righteous seeking of the well-being of others, there is no abiding, or hanging out, with God.

When you show love for others, God gives you more love of Him.

The way to make sure you get the maximum reward from the Lord Jesus Christ is to be a loving Christian.
Complete this viewer guide as you watch the video for session 3.

God has called us into a _community_ of people who are to relate to Him and to see that relationship worked out in one another.

The word _body_ gave a living, breathing illustration of what the family of God is to look like and how the family of God is to function.

God is not asking all body parts to be the same but the different body parts to work _together_.

You are saved into a _community_.

Connectivity ought to produce _caring_.

There is to be _unity_ in the midst of diversity.

A body has different parts, but all the parts _matter_.

Church _membership_ is the decision to be identified and functionally involved with another group of believers who are all learning together to live under the lordship of Jesus Christ.

Attachment automatically brings _accountability_.

The thing that unifies the church is the _Spirit_.

There are no insignificant Christians, and there should be no insignificant _members_.

The church is not to first be known by its programs; it's to first be known by its _relationships_.

Video sessions available at lifeway.com/HorizontalJesus
Complete this viewer guide as you watch the video for session 4.

**Hope** is the antidote to discouragement. **Hopelessness** is the encouragement of discouragement.

The vital encouragement we ourselves need from God, we are also giving to **others**.

Find something you have had to be encouraged about and find somebody going through that same or similar thing and be their **encourager**.

God is looking for some **cheerleaders** in the church.

Depression doesn’t mean you’re unspiritual; depression means you’re **struggling** right now.

The reason you don’t have to give up is because God always has a source to **encourage** you, and His primary source is people He brings into your life.

One of the reasons God allows you to become discouraged is so that when you are encouraged, you have **experience** in an area somebody else is going to need.

There is purpose in your pain, and the purpose will always be tied to **ministry** to be an encourager.

An encourager is not just someone who says the word but who wants to know if there’s anything they can do to **help**.

The ministry of the church is to mobilize the membership to **care** for one another.

Hope is joyful **expectation** about the future.

Our job as encouragers is to say, “God is still on the throne, you’re still here, and He still has a **plan**.”
Complete this viewer guide as you watch the video for session 5.

The church is supposed to be God’s _hospital_ for folks who are spiritually ill.

God’s spiritual repair center is His _family_ as they do the job of helping hurting people get well.

Churches are full of people, and people are full of _pain_.

If you find people who are stuck, they ought to be able to come to the church and find spiritual _physicians_ who are equipped and desirous to help mend them.

Churches are full of _prisoners_ of war, people who are suffering in a prison they can’t get out of.

If the spiritual is the cause, the spiritual must be the _cure_.

A spiritual person consistently operates with _God’s_ perspective in mind.

A spiritual person is never satisfied merely with discussing the _symptoms_.

A spiritual person has to have the right spirit. It ought to be clear even if it _hurts_, it’s designed to _help_.

When we restore one another, it’s to help because it’s a _family_ issue, the church of Jesus Christ helping people become whole again, strong again, victorious again.

You bear the burden, but you don’t take the _load_.

Video sessions available at lifeway.com/HorizontalJesus
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Complete this viewer guide as you watch the video for session 6.

Service is supposed to be the ministry of the church, where we are taking our gifts and our skills, our time and our talent and our resources to minister to others outside ourselves.

Servanthood is the willingness to humble oneself, to act for the well-being of others in the name of Christ.

Every Christian has been given a spiritual gift, a spiritual enablement in order to serve the family of God.

God has a specific function for you, and that function is true to how you were made.

We must develop a servant’s mindset. What can I do with the gifts, skills, time, and talents that God has given me to improve the well-being of others?

The motivation for your servanthood is freedom.

Freedom is removal from illegitimate bondage so that you can maximize your potential.

One of the greatest ways to express the fact of your freedom is to set others free.

When you understand that Jesus Christ has set you free, you don’t mind being a servant.

Give to give so that God can give to you, and that comes through service.

We are to help each other progress spiritually through the ministry we carry out because we ourselves have been set free.

To refuse to be a servant is to insult the new life God has given us when we accepted Jesus Christ and had our sins forgiven.

Video sessions available at lifeway.com/HorizontalJesus