

HOW TO CONNECT WITH PEOPLE
#SermonConnecting
Growing Healthy Relationships
Dr. Mark Jackson - May 21, 2017

The Bridge Church Motto: **CONNECTING WITH GOD AND PEOPLE**

Proverbs 27:9b ...a sweet friendship **refreshes the soul**. (MSG)

1. BE COURAGEOUS AND TAKE THE INITIATIVE

2 Timothy 1:7 For the Holy Spirit, God's gift, does not want you to be **afraid of people**, but to be wise and strong, and to **love them** and **enjoy being with them**. (LB)

2. BE CONSIDERATE OF THEIR NEEDS

1 Corinthians 1:10 I have a serious concern to bring up with you, my friends, using the authority of Jesus, our Master. I'll put it as urgently as I can: You must **get along with each other**. You must **learn to be considerate of one another**, **cultivating** a life in common. (MSG)

Proverbs 17:9 You will keep your friends if you **forgive them**, but you will lose your friends if you **keep talking about what they did wrong**. (CEV)

3. BE CONSTRUCTIVE WITH YOUR WORDS

Ephesians 4:29 Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths, but only what is helpful for **building others up** according to their needs, that it may benefit those who listen. (NIV)

Galatians 5:15 If you go on **hurting each other** and **tearing each other apart** you will completely **destroy each other**. (ICB)

4. BE CANDID ABOUT PROBLEMS

Proverbs 24:26 An **honest answer** is a sign of **true friendship**. (TEV)

Proverbs 27:5-6a A truly good friend will **openly correct** you. ⁶You can trust a friend who **corrects you**... (CEV)

5. BE CONFIDENTIAL WITH INFORMATION

Proverbs 11:13 A gossip tells everything, but a true friend will **keep a secret**. (CEV)

Proverbs 16:28 A troublemaker plants seeds of strife; **gossip separates** the best of friends. (NLT)

6. BE COMMITTED TO THE RELATIONSHIP

Proverbs 17:17a A friend loves you **all the time**. (ICB)

Proverbs 18:24 There are "friends" who pretend to be friends, but there is a friend who **sticks closer than a brother**. (LB)