



LESSON 9 // CREATE RELATIONSHIP SPACE

Big Idea: Healthy relationships require enough space to develop and grow. You create this space by finding the time to build the most important relationships in your life, identifying the people you want to invest time with, making this time rewarding and not overdoing it. Jesus set the example for us as we see how He made time for His relationship with the Father and His closest disciples.

Psalm 90:12 (TLB) *Teach us to number our days and recognize how few they are; help us to spend them as we should.*

Luke 6:12, 13 (NIV) *One of those days Jesus went out to a mountainside to pray, and spent the night praying to God. ¹³ When morning came, he called his disciples to him and chose twelve of them, whom he also designated apostles.*

Start Talking:

What does it mean to “create relationship space”? What happens in our relationships if we don’t do this?

Start Thinking:

Read Psalm 90:12; Ephesians 5:16. What do you learn from these verses about the use of your time? How should this impact the time you choose to spend building relationships with people?

Pastor Dale said that we are called to “love everyone, serve some and commit to a few.” How can this help you establish and live out healthy relationship priorities?

Read Proverbs 17:17; 27:17. What do these verses tell you about rewarding relationships? How does this apply to your relationships?

Read Proverbs 25:17. What is “interdependence” and how is this a healthier approach to your relationships than “independence” or “over-dependence”?

Start Praying:

Pray for God’s wisdom about creating healthy space in your relationships.

Start Doing:

Identify the most important relationships in your life and determine if you have a healthy interdependence with these people. Make adjustments and talk with them as needed about the value of this and how it can help your relationship grow stronger.