

# TRANSFORM YOUR RELATIONSHIPS START HERE

Week 6 | Made For Love | Genesis 2:15-25

## GOD IS LOVE

"It was the best of times, it was the worst of times." This famous introduction to "A Tale of Two Cities" by Charles Dickens expressed the polar-opposite realities occurring in the cities of Paris and London preceding the French Revolution. Opposites so extreme that it almost boggles the mind as to how they could have happened simultaneously. And yet, we often find such extreme realities at play in our daily and personal relationships. On the one hand, relationships can be the most amazing and rewarding experiences. On the other hand, relationships can be discouraging and, even unfortunately, devastating. They can be the best of times and the worst of times. The only way to get off the pendulum of extremes is to learn how to live in relationship to others according to God's original design.

Leaders: Take your group through each section: Pray, Reflect, and Reach. Keep in mind the time allowances. In the Reflect section, feel free to focus on several of these questions instead of all as time allows.

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### PRAY (10 min)

As a Home Group, take an extended time to pray for the next six weeks of your meetings. Ask God to move miraculously to bring healing, encouragement, hope, strength, conviction, repentance, and more.



### REFLECT (25 min)

As you've had the opportunity to reflect on what God has spoken to you through the lesson this week, consider these questions as a group and discuss them.

1. According to the teaching, how is the Trinity the beginning and the basis for all relationships?

**Having been made in God's image, we are engineered, in other words, made for loving relationships.**

2. As a group, share how you define love. Now compare those definitions with the definition that was given during the teaching. How do they differ? Have you defined love in a way that fits the culture rather than the Scripture?

**LOVE: The unconditional, self-givingness of God that springs naturally from His being and is eternally displayed within the Trinity and to all His creation through Christ.**

3. Based on the table below, would you say that your relationships are more transactional or transformational? Describe.

TRANSACTIONAL	TRANSFORMATIONAL
About you and what you get	About others and what you give
Human patterned and human-powered	God patterned and God-powered
Maintained if there's a personal benefit	Willing to sacrifice
Built on fear and lack of trust	Built on faith and mutual trust
Unwilling to change	Embrace and experience change
Like a business partnership	About love
Reinforces toxic cycles	Breaks unhealthy patterns; begins healthy ones

4. How have you been made complete in God's love? How does God's love enable you to have healthy relationships?

**There is no fear in love; but perfect love casts out fear, because fear involves torment. But he who fears has not been made perfect in love. We love Him because He first loved us.**

1 John 4:18-19



### WEEKLY MEMORIZATION VERSE

**Matthew 22:37-39**

Jesus said to him, "'You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind.' This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like it: 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.'



### REACH (5 min)

Considering what God revealed to you this week, be intentional about prioritizing God's love this week. Receive it daily as a gift through Christ and share it with those God has placed in your life. Choose love over toxic behaviors and attitudes.

**Next week we will be anxiously waiting to hear how God's love transformed you and your relationships.**