

Conversation Guide

Relationships

Feature
Presentation

Part
01

Sin is fundamentally making good things into ultimate things.

Summary

Romantic love, created by God, is a good thing, but our culture has elevated it as the ultimate thing. As a result, we are inclined to take two extreme views on relationships. Codependence is an unhealthy level of attachment to someone, believing that value and purpose comes from being in that relationship. On the other hand, independence (as we use the word here) refers to the mindset that, "I don't need friends, I don't need lovers, I don't need any kind of community at all" and usually follows after deep relational pain.

Reflect, Discuss, And Share

01 Consider the scene where Batman wistfully looks to his left and right after making fun of a *Jerry Maguire* scene. How has his childhood contributed to his preferred mode of isolation and loneliness? How have you seen this to be true in your day-to-day interactions?

Discuss!

02 "You complete me" is the iconic line of the movie that is still widely used today. What are the assumptions that underlie this short sentence? According to this line, what is the state of the individual without the other? What is the role of the other in a relationship?

Think about this!

03 Tell your teen about a time when you or your close friend were in a codependent relationship. How did you feel when it first started? How did that feeling change throughout the course of the relationship?

Be Vulnerable!

Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is love.

1 John 4:8



Reflect on a time when you have been deeply wounded from a relationship. How does it impact your relational choices today?



Though it's a little old, this article <http://www.stephaniecoontz.com/articles/article34.htm> has some great insights about romantic love and friendship.