

## Summer Lovin' – Part 3 Deepening Our Relationships

Jesus replied, "The most important commandment is this: 'Listen, O Israel! The Lord our God is the one and only Lord. **And you must love the Lord your God with all your heart, all your soul, all your mind, and all your strength.**' The second is equally important: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.' No other commandment is greater than these."

Mark 12:29-31 (NLT)

- **Loving our neighbor as ourselves is learning to develop healthy friendships.**

And the Lord God said: "It is not good that man should be alone."

Genesis 2:18a (NKJV)

He who stays away from others cares only about himself. He argues against all good wisdom.

Proverbs 18:1 (NLT)

- **Loving our neighbor as ourselves is being a friend before having a friend.**

A friend loves at all times and a brother is born for adversity.

Proverbs 17:17 (NIV)

### How do we help a friend when they face adversity?

- By **praying** for them.

We don't just put up with our limitations; we celebrate them, and then go on to celebrate every strength, every triumph of the truth in you. **We pray hard** that it will all come together in your lives. 2 Corinthians 13:9 (MSG)

Night and day **we continue praying** with all our heart that we can see you again and give you all the things you need to make your faith strong.

1 Thessalonians 3:10 (NCV)

- By **encouraging** them.

We kept at it, repairing and rebuilding the wall. **The whole wall was soon joined together and halfway to its intended height because the people had a heart for the work.**

Nehemiah 4:6 (MSG)

Then the people of Judah began to complain, "The workers are getting tired, and there is so much rubble to be moved. We will never be able to build the wall by ourselves."

Nehemiah 4:10 (NLT)

**We all get discouraged from time to time and that is why you need others in your life!**

Therefore, when we could no longer endure it, we thought it good to be left in Athens alone, and **sent Timothy**, our brother and minister of God, and our fellow laborer in the gospel of Christ, **to establish you and encourage you concerning your faith**, that no one should be shaken by these afflictions; for you yourselves know that we are appointed to this.

1 Thessalonians 3:1-3 (NKJV)