



Key Scripture:

2 Corinthians 5:18 GOD'S WORD

God has done all this. **He has restored our relationship with Him through Christ,** and has **given us this ministry of restoring relationships.**

**Communication is the key to resolving conflict...
but the secret to connecting with people is finding common ground.**

God has saved you for relationships!

1 Corinthians 9:22-23 TLB

22 When I am with those whose consciences bother them easily, I don't act as though I know it all and don't say they are foolish; the result is that they are willing to let me help them. Yes, whatever a person is like, **I try to find common ground with him** so that he will let me tell him about Christ and let Christ save him. 23 I do this to get the Gospel to them and also for the blessing I myself receive when I see them come to Christ.

Obstacles to finding common ground...

- ✓ **Assumption:** "I already know what other people are like."

Proverbs 3:7 Message

Don't assume that you know it all. Run to God! Run from evil!

- ✓ **Conceit:** "I don't need to know other people."

- ✓ **Apathy:** "I don't care to know other people."

- ✓ **Concealment:** "I don't want other people to know the real me."

**To cultivate a relationship...you must connect
the best way to connect is to find common ground.**

Notes: _____

Relational Health

Common Ground

Connect by finding common ground.

1. **Make yourself available to others.**

Matthew 8:16 GNT

When evening came, **people brought to Jesus many who had demons in them.**

Jesus drove out the evil spirits with a word and healed all who were sick.

2. **Listen to hear the heart of others.**

Luke 12:34 CEV

Your heart will always be where your treasure is.

Three Questions to help you listen to a person's heart.

- ✓ **What do you have a burden for?** _____
- ✓ **What do you rejoice about?** _____
- ✓ **What are your dreams?** _____

3. **Be open by letting people into your life.**

Matthew 17:1-2, 7-8 NLT

1 Six days later Jesus took Peter and the two brothers, James and John, and led them up a high mountain to be alone. 2 As the men watched, Jesus' appearance was transformed so that His face shone like the sun, and His clothes became as white as light.

7 Then Jesus came over and touched them. "Get up," He said. "Don't be afraid."

8 And when they looked, **they saw only Jesus.**

James 5:16 NLT

Confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed...

4. **Be sincerely interested in the lives of others.**

Philippians 2:3-5 NCV

3 When you do things, do not let selfishness or pride be your guide.

Instead, **be humble** and give more honor to others than to yourselves.

- 4 **Do not be interested only in your own life,** but **be interested in the lives of others.**

5 In your lives you must think and act like Christ Jesus.

Notes: _____

