



## Summary of Sermon

### Relationships

We are created to be connected, and our relationships go from an initial “vener” stage, through disillusionment, to mature commitment.

But if the context of our lives is relational, there is a cost to working out those relationships, but this can result in a closeness that cannot otherwise be obtained.

Jesus’ disciple Peter in 1 Peter 2.5 wrote of us “living stones” being joined and built up together. And in 1 Peter 4.8-10 he prioritises the need to love and serve each other, which was after Jesus taught them to “wash each other’s feet” John 13.14.

## Life Group Questions

1. We don’t work well in isolation. What can we do to help isolated brothers and sisters to join in with the community life of the church? And how do we and can we further love and serve each other, building up the body in love?
2. Do relationships occur by chance or choice?  
Who is in charge of their development and maintenance?  
Is there any help available?
3. We might value our relationships highly, but they may also give us the deepest and greatest pain. What does the gospel account of Jesus’ relationship his disciples teach us and challenge us with?
4. Pray for maturing, fruitful relationships within the body of Christ and also reaching out to those outside of the church, so that we all may know more of the riches and depths of God’s love.