

RELATIONSHIPS

5. Healing for Damaged Relationships

June 9, 2019 | Romans 12:9-21

Moving parts can cause friction. Friction creates heat, and heat can cause damage. That's the way it often works in our relationships. Whether it's with a friend, at church, at work, with a neighbor, or in our family, it's easy for relationships to become strained. Because God is a God of relationships, He desires His children to work towards healthy relationships. That means we must take the right steps towards repairing damaged relationships.

Moving Towards Healing—Romans 12:18

1. Commit to healing.

The key phrase: "*As far as it depends on you!*"

2. Engage healing with humility.—Romans 12:16

Here are two questions to ask yourself:

- What part of this don't I understand?
- What part of this should I own?

3. Be wise and guarded with your words.—Romans 12:14

When we feel victimized, we tend to villainize, then polarize, and ultimately demonize whomever hurt us.

Why pray for those who hurt us?

I can't change another person's heart—only God can!

4. Resist revenge; embrace grace.—Rom. 12:17-21, Deut. 32:34-35

So what does this mean to heap burning coals on one's head?

The first emotion in another caused by good to him may be one of burning shame.

Let God take care of justice. You take care of giving grace.

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I can't change another person's heart—_____!

Resist _____; embrace _____.

—Romans 12:17-21, Deuteronomy 32:34-35

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Let God take care of _____. You take care of giving _____.