

April 3 2016

RELATIONSHIP RENOVATION

**Setting the Foundation for Our Relationships**

**Genesis 1:26-2:25**

Relationships are part of everyday life. Being human means we live each day in some relational context. Yet the reality is many of our relationships are not exactly what God had in mind. The truth is we need help is living with people. We need the Lord to renovate our relationships so they begin to live in the fullness of His plan. So let's go back to the beginning to understand God's design for our relationships so we can set the right foundation.

1. **God is relational in His nature and being.**

*“Then God said, ‘Let Us make man in Our image, in Our likeness, and let them rule over the fish of the sea and the birds of the air, over the livestock, over all the earth, and over all the creatures that move along the ground.’”* **Genesis 1:26 (NIV)**

2. **God made us in His image!**

*“So God created man in His own image, in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them.”* **Genesis 1:27 (NIV)**

*“‘Haven’t you read the Scriptures?’ Jesus replied. ‘They record that from the beginning God made them male and female.’”*  
**Matthew 19:4 (NLT)**

3. **God gave boundaries to guide and guard us.**

*“The Lord God took the man and put him in the Garden of Eden to work it and take care of it. And the Lord God commanded the man, ‘You are free to eat from any tree in the garden; but you must not eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, for when you eat of it you will surely die.’”* **Genesis 2:15-17 (NIV)**

4. **God intends for us to live in relationship.**

*“The Lord God said, ‘It is not good for the man to be alone. I will make a helper suitable for him.’”* **Genesis 2:18 (NIV)**

5. **God wants us to live free from fear and shame.**

*“The man and his wife were both naked, and they felt no shame.”*  
**Genesis 2:25 (NIV)**