

#NoFilter

Week 4 - Authentic Relationships

July 16th, 2023

AIM FOR AUTHENTICITY

We will not pretend to be anyone else to try to please others.

But if we are living in the light, as God is in the light, then we have fellowship with each other. (1 John 1:7, New Living Translation)

How do we Develop Genuine, Authentic Friendships?

Dear friends, I am not writing a new commandment for you; rather it is an old one you have had from the very beginning. This old commandment—to love one another—is the same message you heard before. Yet it is also new. Jesus lived the truth of this commandment, and you also are living it. (1 John 2:7–8, NLT)

1. Choose to love each other.

So now I am giving you a new commandment: Love each other. Just as I have loved you, you should love each other. (John 13:34, NLT)

2. Choose to forgive each other.

If anyone claims, 'I am living in the light,' but hates a fellow believer, that person is still living in darkness. (1 John 2:9–11, NLT)

Love never gives up, never loses faith, is always hopeful, and endures through every circumstance. (1 Corinthians 13:7, NLT)

Be kind to each other, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, just as God through Christ has forgiven you. (Ephesians 4:32, NLT)

If someone says, 'I love God,' but hates a fellow believer, that person is a liar; for if we don't love people we can see, how can we love God, whom we cannot see? And he has given us this command: Those who love God must also love their fellow believers. (1 John 4:20–21, NLT)

3. Choose to know God—the source of genuine love!

Dear friends, let us continue to love one another, for love comes from God. Anyone who loves is a child of God and knows God. But anyone who does not love does not know God, for God is love. (1 John 4:7–8, NLT)

Your love for one another will prove to the world that you are my disciples. (John 13:35, NLT)

We love each other because he loved us first. (1 John 4:19, NLT)

This is real love—not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as a sacrifice to take away our sins. (1 John 4:10, NLT)

Dear friends, since God loved us that much, we surely ought to love each other. No one has ever seen God. But if we love each other, God lives in us, and his love is brought to full expression in us. (1 John 4:11–12, NLT)

Final thought:
What's holding you back from choosing to show love?