

# RELATIONSHIPS 101...

## SOME QUESTIONS:

(Based on Gen.33:1-10 & Philippians 2:1-20)

1. Bearing in mind that Jacob stole Esau's birthright and his blessing (both of which were highly valued) and then he fled to his uncle and the grew very wealthy on. How would you feel about Jacob if you were in Esau's sandals?
2. Jacob tries to buy Esau's love and respect with gifts... Can you think of times that you've been guilty of trying to buy people's love or respect?
3. What does Esau's gracious response to Jacob teach us? (Esau ran, threw his arms around Jacob and they wept together. Esau enquired about Jacob's family and tried to refuse all the gifts Jacob offered him.)
4. Can you identify with the sentiment about seeing God in the face of people around you... even if you were estranged from them?
5. Paul makes it clear (in Philippians) that our human relationships flow out of our relationship with Him... How does your relationship with Him look now:



## SOME KEY TRUTHS AROUND RELATIONSHIPS.

1. One of the four greek words for love is "agape" - It means unconditional love and care.
2. Children spell Love as T...I...M...E... (as do many adults)
3. Communication is like a pyramid with three layers:  
Fears, Hopes , Dreams & Vision (top)  
Opinions, Ideas, Likes and dislikes (middle)  
Facts and Details of arrangements (bottom)  
Most people are stuck on the bottom level. Trust and Time are needed to improve.)
4. Many of us allow things that happened in the past to jeopardise our future and even our present. How can we prevent this?
5. Seek first to understand, then to be understood (Law of 2 ears and one mouth)
6. Thinking before we speak can prevent a lot of pain.
7. Secrets are very destructive to relationships.
8. Gossip is deadly to relationships.
9. Good communication paves the way for good conflict resolution.

