



4 Actions Every Relationship Needs

Cast Vision

October 1, 2017 / Jeff Gunn

⁹ Two are better than one, because they have a good return for their labor: ¹⁰ If either of them falls down, one can help the other up. But pity anyone who falls and has no one to help them up. ¹¹ Also, if two lie down together, they will keep warm. But how can one keep warm alone? ¹² Though one may be overpowered, two can defend themselves. A cord of three strands is not quickly broken. **Ecclesiastes 4:9-12, NIV**

¹⁸ 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**

Doing life _____ is not God's _____ for our lives.

¹⁶ The simple believe anything, but the prudent give thought to their steps. **Proverbs 14:15, NIV**

⁹ In their hearts humans plan their course, but the Lord establishes their steps. **Proverbs 16:9, NIV**

Do I have a shared _____ for my friendships, one that I submit to God's will and _____ to with my own will?

¹⁸ Where there is no revelation, people cast off restraint; but blessed is the one who heeds wisdom's instruction. **Proverbs 29:18, NIV**

¹⁷ As iron sharpens iron, so one person sharpens another. **Proverbs 27:17, NIV**

1. God's vision is that I help others _____ their goals, and have others to help me _____ my goals.

¹⁴ Yet it was good for you to share in my troubles. **Philippians 4:14, NIV**

2. God's vision is that I help others in _____, and receive help when I am in _____.

¹⁵ Suppose a brother or a sister is without clothes and daily food. ¹⁶ If one of you says to them, "Go in peace; keep warm and well fed," but does nothing about their physical needs, what good is it? ¹⁷ In the same way, faith by itself, if it is not accompanied by action, is dead. **James 2:15-17, NIV**

3. God's vision is that I provide _____ to others, and receive _____ from others.

¹³ But if my father intends to harm you, may the Lord deal with Jonathan, be it ever so severely, if I do not let you know and send you away in peace. May the Lord be with you as he has been with my father. **1 Samuel 20:13, NIV**

4. God's vision is that I _____ others from danger, and be _____ when I am in danger.

⁷ Dear friends, let us love one another, for love comes from God. Everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God.

⁸ Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is love. ⁹ This is how God showed his love among us: He sent his one and only Son into the world that we might live through him. ¹⁰ This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins **1 John 4:7-10, NIV**

Jesus makes us _____ and _____. The blessing: Now our friendships can become _____ and _____.

MEMORY VERSE

Two are better than one, because they have a good return for their labor... A cord of three strands is not quickly broken. **Ecclesiastes 4:9, 12, NIV**

My next step: Pick a friendship and cast vision for it. Submit your vision to God's will. Commit to moving toward the vision.

What's your next step today?

Mark it on your Communication Card.

Impact Groups

4 Actions Every Relationship Needs – Casting Vision

Getting Started: What is a pleasant relationship that you remember from your childhood?

Work for 3 minutes with one or two other people. Create a working definition of the word “relationship?”

Casting Vision: **Read the passage below**

Two are better than one, because they have a good return for their labor: ¹⁰ If either of them falls down, one can help the other up. But pity anyone who falls and has no one to help them up.

¹¹ Also, if two lie down together, they will keep warm. But how can one keep warm alone? ¹² Though one may be overpowered, two can defend themselves. A cord of three strands is not quickly broken. Ecclesiastes 4:9-12, NIV

Compare your definition with God’s vision of a relationship in these verses. What are your observations?

Agree or Disagree. This passage is talking primarily about marriage.

When are times that it might seem like you are better off without any relationships? Why is that?

How does the previous question help us cast a vision of a relationship that includes, confessing sin, forgiveness and Christ-like love?

The Blessing of Relationships:

Look at the Ecclesiastes passages again. Here is a summary list of the blessings of a relationship from those verses:

We achieve goals together.

We help each other in trouble. (pick each other up)

We provide and receive warmth.

We protect each other from danger.

Which of these blessings of a relationship do you value the most? When is a time you have enjoyed this blessing in a relationship?

Christ in a Relationship

It is possible to have a good relationship without God or Jesus having anything to do with it. Think of a specific relationship. It could be a friendship, a marriage, a work relationship, - any relationship. Now that you have one in mind, share the relationship and how having Christ as a part of it makes it even stronger and better.

Close with a Prayer Walk

A prayer walk is *simply walking through your neighborhood and praying about things you observe*. Go in groups of 2-4. Take a 10-15 minute walk or drive to a spot you feel is significant. (school, firehouse, busy intersection). Either pray as you walk or stop at an area to pray. Thank God, ask God for help, pray wherever your heart leads you.

The value of this exercise is that it takes you outside of the walls of your home – out of your safe place – and gets you used to taking God to the world. Please give it a shot!

Either come back as a group to the home you meet at or go home and share what you prayed about at your Impact Group next week. Your leader will let you know how you are going to do it.