

Homework: Relationships / Forgiveness / Reconciliation

1. A lesson on relationships needs to include a consideration of not only the characteristics of meaningful relationships but also the reality that every relationship requires ongoing effort. We are good yet limited people and our limitations are as much a part of who we are as our strengths are. In this section we will address the cycle of relationships, forgiveness and reconciliation.
2. Using the list of characteristics of meaningful relationships covered in class, journal on which of these qualities are part of your relationship with Jesus and which are weak in your relationship with him. Add qualities that are not part of the list but are significant to your relationship at this time.

Consider how your relationship with Jesus began and how it has grown throughout your life. Keep in mind that each of us is invited by God to develop and live in relationship with him. We are invited to be friends of Jesus and to live as God's children. One way for each of us to strengthen our relationship with God and with others is to celebrate the Sacrament of Penance.

Some Scripture passages that highlight an important dimension of who Jesus is and/or what friendship with him involves include:

- John 15:10-17 ("Love one another...I call you friends...")
 - Mark 8:27-29, 31 ("Who do you say that I am?"...)
 - Mark 10:35-45 ("Grant that we may sit one at your right...")
 - Matthew 7:7-8 ("Ask and it will be given to you...")
3. Using [The Relationship Cycle handout](#), identify a past and current relationship that you can reflect on as you move through the cycle. *(It does not have to be a dating relationship.)*
 4. The need for forgiveness and reconciliation within relationships is crucial. Look over the [handouts](#) (listed below) related to problems in relationships and ways to deal with them
 - Relationship Challenges
 - Step By Step
 - Got Problems?
 - Tips for the Troubled