



THE PROBLEM WITH PEOPLE

HOW TO DEAL WITH RELATIONAL FAILURE

1. Don't Cover.

“They realized they were naked, so they sewed fig leaves together and made something to cover themselves. Then they heard the Lord God walking in the garden during the cool part of the day, and the man and his wife hid from the Lord God among the trees in the garden. 9 But the Lord God called to the man and said, "Where are you?" The man answered, "I heard you walking in the garden, and I was afraid because I was naked, so I hid." Genesis 3:7-10

“In fact, under the Law almost everything is cleansed with blood, and without the shedding of blood there is no forgiveness [neither release from sin and its guilt, nor cancellation of the merited punishment].” Hebrews 9:22

“But the blood of Christ's sacrifice will do much more than that! Christ offered himself to God, in the power of his Spirit, who lives forever. That sacrifice was completely good. There was no wrong thing in Christ. He offered his own blood to make us completely clean inside ourselves. We no longer have to do things that lead to death. Instead, we can serve the God who lives forever.” Hebrews 9:14

Quit hiding from God and start taking baby steps toward him.

“But look at this: You are still holding my right hand; you have been all along. Even though I was angry and hard-hearted, you gave me good advice; when it's all over, you will receive me into your glory. For all my wanting, I don't have anyone but you in heaven. There is nothing on earth that I desire other than you. I admit how broken I am in body and spirit, but God is my strength, and he will be mine forever.” Psalm 73:23-26

2. Discover your triggers.

3. Discover your soul fragments.

“For we know in part, [for our knowledge is fragmentary and incomplete]. But when that which is complete *and* perfect comes, that which is incomplete *and* fragmented will pass away. When I was a child, I spoke and thought and reasoned as a child. But when I grew up, I put away childish things. For now [in this time of imperfection] we see in a mirror dimly, but when the time of perfection comes we will see reality face to face. Now I know in fragments, but then I will know fully, just as I have been fully known by God.” 1 Corinthians 13:9-12

“The Spirit of the Lord God is upon me,
Because the Lord anointed me to bring good news to the humble; He has sent me to
bind up (integrate) the brokenhearted, to proclaim release to captives and freedom to
prisoners.” Isaiah 61:1

“God heals the brokenhearted and binds up their wounds [curing their pains and their
sorrows].” Psalm 147:3 (AMP)

Jesus doesn't reject the broken, wounded, or fragmented parts of us.

“Do not allow this world to mold you in its own image. Instead, be transformed *from the
inside out* by renewing your mind. As a result, you will be able to discern what God wills
and whatever God finds good, pleasing, and complete.” Romans 12:2

**The real work of relationships is not occasional, or even daily: it is minute-to-
minute.**

“Therefore do not be foolish *and* thoughtless, but understand *and* firmly grasp what the
will of the Lord is. Do not get drunk with wine, for that is wickedness (corruption,
stupidity), but be filled with the [Holy] Spirit *and* constantly guided by Him.” Ephesians
5:17-18

“You have searched me, Lord, and you know me. You know when I sit and when I rise;
you perceive my thoughts from afar. You discern my going out and my lying down; you
are familiar with all my ways. Before a word is on my tongue you, Lord, know it
completely. Psalm 139:1-4

“Investigate me, God, and know my heart.
Test me and know my troubled thoughts. See if there is any way in me that causes pain,
and lead me in the way.”
Psalm 139:23-24

Acknowledge the fragments.

Invite Christ into the brokenness.

Receive His love and compassion.

“The Lord is close to the brokenhearted and saves those who are crushed in spirit.”
Psalm 34:18 (NIV)

3. Rediscover the “cool of the day.”

“But I say, walk *habitually* in the [Holy] Spirit [seek Him and be responsive to His guidance], and then you will certainly not carry out the desire of the sinful nature [which responds impulsively without regard for God and His precepts].” Galatians 5:16

“But the fruit of the Spirit [the result of His presence within us] is love [unselfish concern for others], joy, [inner] peace, patience [not the ability to wait, but how we act while waiting], kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control...” Galatians 5:22-23

“This cup is my blood, my new covenant with you. Each time you drink this cup, remember me. What you must solemnly realize is that every time you eat this bread and every time you drink this cup, you reenact in your words and actions the death of the Master. You will be drawn back to this meal again and again until the Master returns. You must never let familiarity breed contempt.” 1 Corinthians 11:25-27