

RELATIONSHIP NOT RELIGION
JOHN 14:21 / 6-9-19 / AM

I. FIRST, GOD INITIATES A RELATIONSHIP WITH US.

- A. God has always taken the initiative or makes the first move--1 John 4:19.
 - 1. God took the initiative in creation-Gen. 1:1.
 - 2. God also makes the first move in our salvation -John 3:16.
- B. There are Biblical examples of God taking the initiative to reach out to others.
 - 1. God came to Adam and Eve in the Garden-Gen. 3:9.
 - 2. He came to Abraham—Gen. 12:1.
- C. Why does God take the initiative in coming to us?--Romans 3:10-12.

II. SECOND, WE MUST MAINTAIN AND CULTIVATE THIS RELATIONSHIP.

- A. First, by loving God—John 14:21 & Matt. 22:37-38.
 - 1. If our love relationship with God isn't right then everything else will be wrong.
 - 2. Jesus warns us about dividing our loyalty to God—Matt. 6:24.
- B. Second, we maintain our love relationship with God by obeying Him—John 14:15.
 - 1. Obedience is the outward expression of our love for God.
 - 2. Jesus set an example of obedience for us to follow—John 14:31b.
 - 3. If we have an obedience problem with God than we really have a love problem with Him.