

#relationshipgoals we can do better

Love: A Foundation for All Relationships – Pastor Mark Pope September 16 & 17, 2017 Discussion Questions

1. Pastor Mark opened with the example of painter Bob Ross using a few basic tools to create a beautiful painting. Why do you think the basics matter so much? What are some of the “basic tools” of Christianity? Why do we tend to stray from the basics?
2. Read Luke 10:25-37
In the Scripture, the Samaritan put himself at risk to help the man. What basics do you think motivated him that didn’t motivate the priest or Levite?
3. Pastor Mark mentioned that there may have been valid excuses (security, ceremonial cleanliness, not having the skills to help, etc.) for the priest and Levite to pass by the stranger in need. Have you ever used a valid excuse for not getting involved when you saw someone in need? What were some of those excuses? When you think of them now, do they seem as valid?
4. The image of pitching a tent was used during the message to illustrate settling into long term relationships. However, sometimes we set up camp where it is not beneficial. Are there campgrounds you know you should vacate in order to settle in a more productive land? (i.e., destructive habits, friends that keep you from being available to God's call or purpose, etc.?)
5. Where should you be “pitching your tent” more? (Meaning, how can you more deeply connect with your important relationships?)
6. Pastor Mark said, “be willing to encounter the awkward.” Avoiding awkward moments with others may feel safe, but what kinds of things do we (or they) miss out on if we consistently avoid it? How determined are you to push through awkward moments in order to establish deeper and more meaningful relationships? Share an example from your life of when you faced the awkward.
7. Share one thing you can do this week to push through the awkward.