

Foundations (4 of 4)
Small Group Discussion Questions

Join our congregation for worship in-person or online at 10:30 am each Sunday via our [Grantham Church YouTube Channel](#). If you ever miss a message, the sermons are always posted to the [recent sermons page](#) at our website and at the [Grantham Church Podcast](#) the following day, along with the small group discussion questions under Worship Resources. Thank you for staying connected with us!

Sunday, February 6th 2022



Sermon Series Focus: *Foundations* is a 4-week sermon series that calls us to address the spiritual foundations of our life in Christ. We will see how the gospel challenges us to commit to following Jesus together, which involves regular rhythms of prayer, reading Scripture, and deepening relationships.

Sermon Title: The Call to Relationships

Scripture Reading: Genesis 1:26; Colossians 1:15-23; 2 Corinthians 5:15-21

Sermon Focus: The Bible says that God, who is communal in nature, created us in his image to know him and experience his divine goodness in others. Unfortunately, human sin—like a virus—disrupts and destroys his good purposes. Therefore, God’s desire is that through Christ and the relationships that are possible in the local church, we would be reconciled to God and each other. Listen as Pastor David invites us into the intimate and personal spaces where we let others in on our journey with Jesus.

Thank you for going deeper in conversation with your small group in person, by phone, or video call. Use the following questions to help *guide* your small group discussion:

1. Pastor David began with referencing the movie, *Cast Away* (2000). Have you seen this movie? If so, share with those who haven't. As mentioned in the sermon, the main character talked to a volleyball *and* heard him speak back to him. He wasn't losing his mind, he was trying to maintain his sanity. What does this film say about our need for human relationships and real connection?
2. The Triune God (3-in-1) is a harmony of relationships shared by the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. We should understand that this is at work in Genesis 1:26. In other words, our communal God has created us to live in community. With this in mind, the Church is called out with this unique purpose—to *reflect his image by embodying the Trinitarian community of God on the earth*. How do you think we are doing with this? What are some obstacles to experiencing this today?
3. Reflecting on Colossians 1:15-23 and 2 Corinthians 5:15-21, consider how the work of reconciliation begins with us sharing our true selves and our faith journey with other disciples in the personal and intimate spaces of the church. Describe the difference between "surface relationships" and deep sharing of what is really going on inside of you with intent to grow in your faith with others. Give examples of how you have experienced the difference in your own life.
4. There is no doubt that sacrifices must be made to prioritize the cultivation of relationships through the church within the personal and intimate spaces. Name some of those things. What are the obstacles and diversions (even good things)? And then consider why making sacrifices is worth investing in each other.
5. Deepening relationships require the following in the church.
 - a. Getting close enough to be honest and vulnerable with others.
 - b. Growing in love, humility, patience, trust, mercy and grace.
 - c. Submitting to Christ by committing to other disciples—his Body.

Discuss each of these above. Which area is the Spirit calling you to give more attention and intentionality in the days ahead? What might that look like? Also, how is your small group growing (or need to grow) in these areas?

In closing, spend some time in praying for the Spirit's guidance and power in prioritizing relationships and deepening your discipleship at Grantham Church.