

**March 6 – 12, 2010**  
**BUILDING QUALITY RELATIONSHIPS – PART 3**

In this lesson you will learn that some people say relationships are risky, but if you don't have close relationships, they are risky. "Loneliness is the most terrible poverty" – Mother Teresa.

- I. What quality relationships will give you – John 13:35.
  - A. To have others who genuinely care about your life.
  - B. To be affirmed and encouraged.
  - C. To have someone who believes in you.
  - D. To be challenged to grow beyond where you are – Proverbs 27:17.
  - E. To hold you accountable.
  
- II. Why we need accountability.
  - A. To avoid deception – 1 Corinthians 15:33 – "Do not be deceived: 'Evil company corrupts good habits.'"
    1. To confront us in certain areas of our life.
    2. To hold us to commitments we have made.
    3. To strengthen us to stand firm.
    4. To validate us to speak on behalf of someone else.
    5. To help us draw boundaries.
  
- III. How to avoid deception.
  - A. Get connected with strong Christians.
  - B. Pray before becoming involved with people you don't know.
  - C. Take time to listen to God.
  - D. Get counsel from other godly relationships – Proverbs 11:14.
  - E. Use discernment.
  
- IV. How to develop quality relationships.
  - A. Be friendly and walk in love - 1 Peter 4:8.
  - B. Show that you genuinely care about others.
  - C. Be affirming to others.
  - D. Speak the truth in love.
  - E. Have a servant heart – John 13:1-7.

**DISCUSSION QUESTIONS**

- Was there a time in your life when you thought relationships were risky?
- Share how you have developed quality relationships.
- What does it mean to have a servant heart in your relationships?

**BE A DOER OF THE WORD**

This week ask yourself: Who are the people in my life who hold me accountable, genuinely care about me, affirm and encourage me, believe in me, and challenge me to grow beyond where I am?

**SCRIPTURE MEMORY VERSE:** John 13:35 – "By this all will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another."