



# DEFINE THE RELATIONSHIP



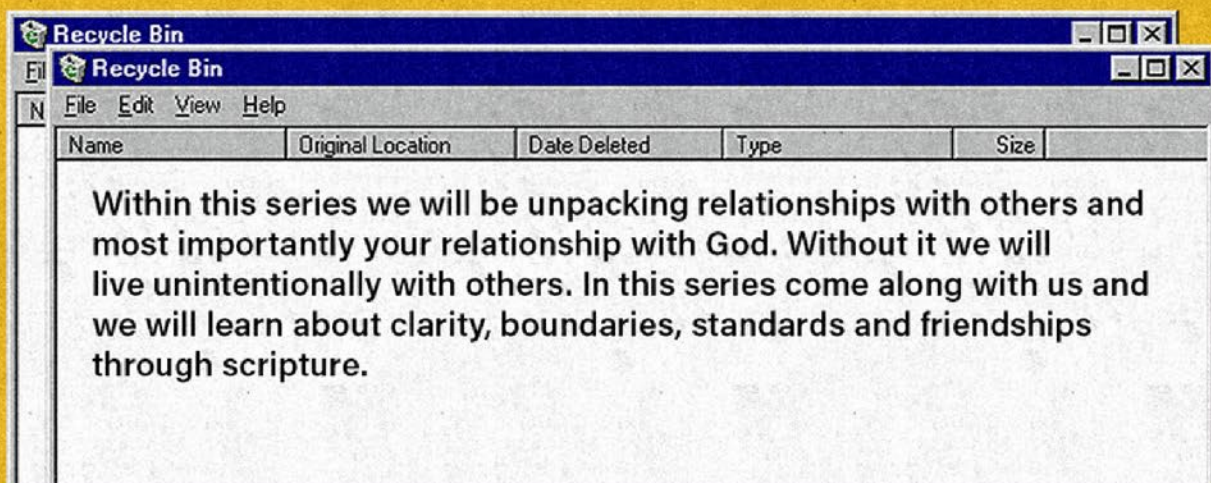
A series on relationships.



# SERIES OVERVIEW



LOADING



Week One: Relationships

Week Two: Boundaries

Week Three: Standards

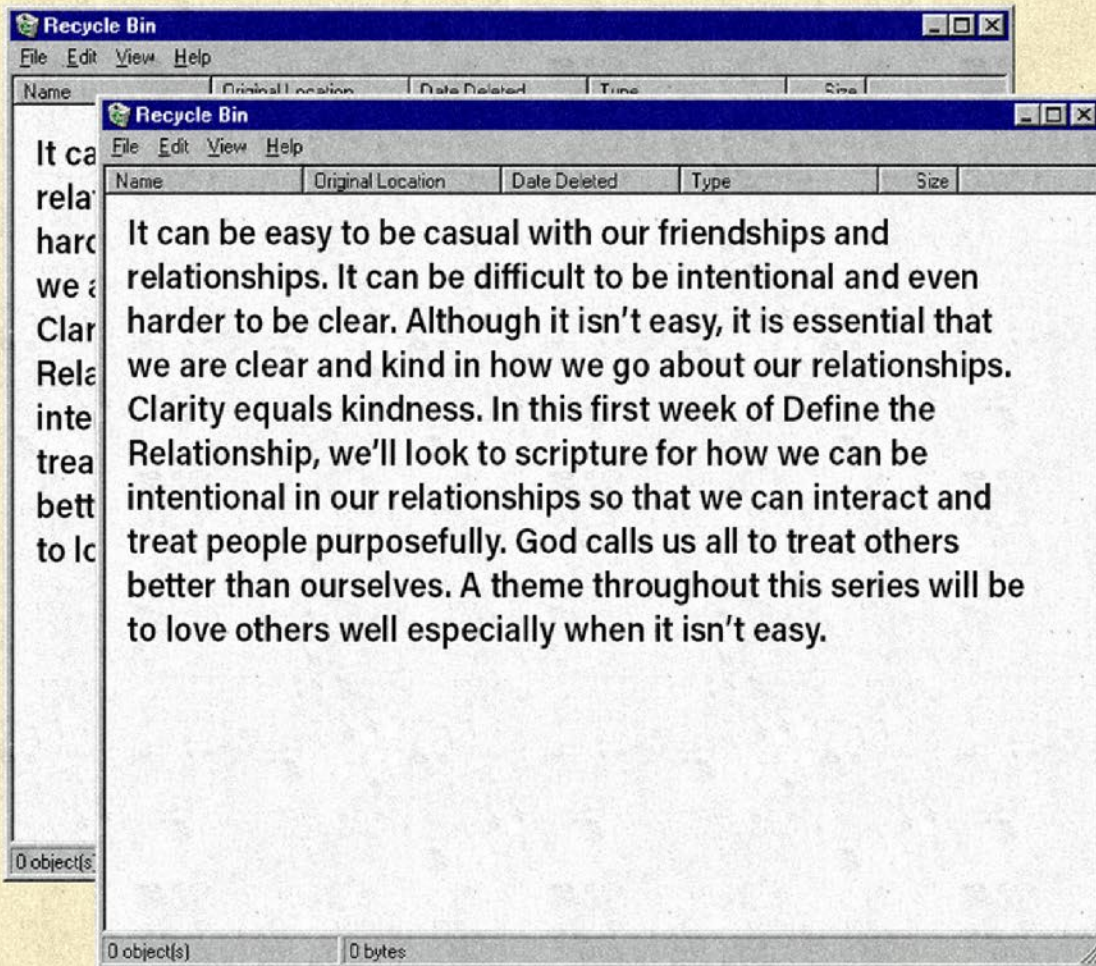
Friendsgiving!!

Week Four: Friendships

Come along with us as we learn how to have Godly relationships!



# WEEK ONE

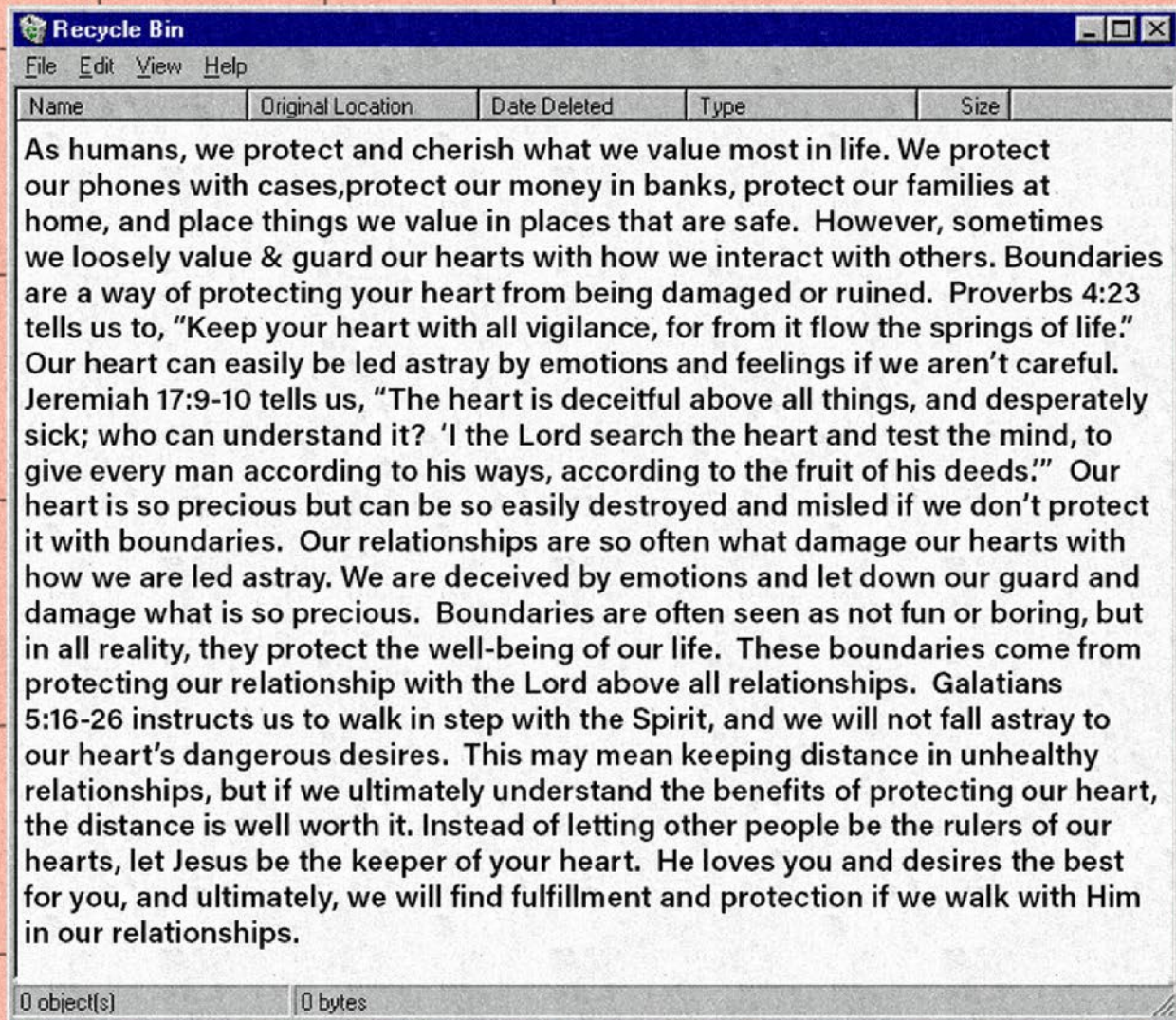


1. Why is it important to be intentional with your relationships?
2. What is keeping you from being purposeful and intentional with those close to you?
3. How can you seek clarity and provide clarity in your life?
4. In what ways does your life reflect and point to Jesus?

Think of a relationship close to you that may be confusing or unclear. In what ways have you brought clarity and kindness to the relationship? In what ways have you struggled to bring kindness and clarity? This week, work on being clear and kind in your relationships. Count others more significant than yourself.



# WEEK TWO



- Pray for the desires of your heart to change
- Pray that God would reveal to you where you need boundaries in relationships
- Be willing to have hard conversations in your relationships that are dangerous to your heart
- Seriously consider whether or not Jesus rules your heart or your emotions and relationships do

1. Are there people in your life that you're close to who damage your heart?
2. Why do we often view boundaries as a bad thing?
3. Have you trusted Jesus with the entirety of your heart?



# WEEK THREE

God's standards are very different from the world's. In Romans 12:2, Paul tells the Romans to not be conformed by the standards of this world but to be transformed by the renewing of their minds. It is easy to look at what the world has to offer and find temporary satisfaction. We can deceive ourselves into thinking that we can live close to God and seek the things of this world at the same time. John gives a warning in 1 John 2:15 to not fall in love with anything of the world. He says that if we love the world, then love for the Father is not in us. If we become friends with the world, then we become enemies of God. (James 4:4) Loving the world may not always look like pursuing evil things. Sometimes we may long for things such as: popularity, relationships, money, or success, and we allow these things to become idols. Instead of being patient and waiting for God's best, we settle for what the world says is good. God wants the very best for us. His ways are not second best to the world's. He has a purpose and plan for each of his followers. Find hope in that truth today!

1. Do you hold your relationships with others to the standards of the world or to God's standards?
2. What are the things in your life that you may be tolerating that don't live up to God's standards?
3. What are some examples of how you can love others according to God's standards?

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<p>What does it look like to live a life by God's standards and not the world's? It means to never pursue the ideas, goals, and purposes of the world. Instead, let us be a people that seek first the Kingdom of God. If we truly love Him and have a relationship with Him, then we will love what he loves. Our hearts would break for the same things that break His heart. We often forget that God holds nothing back from those who follow him wholeheartedly (Psalm 84:11). Instead of lowering your standards to follow the world, fix your minds on Jesus and discover that He is so much better! What he has for you is much better than what the world has for you. How can you shift your perspective to remember that God is greater than the world and that His ways should be the standard for your life?</p>				

