

Connected, Authentic Relationships

May 23, 2021

PICC Core Values

Connected Authentic Relationships

Genesis 2:18

"It is not good for man to be alone."

Ecclesiastes 4:9-12 (NLT)

"Two people are better off than one, for they can help each other succeed. ¹⁰If one person falls, the other can reach out and help. But someone who falls alone is in real trouble. ¹¹Likewise, two people lying close together can keep each other warm. But how can one be warm alone? ¹²A person standing alone can be attacked and defeated, but two can stand back-to-back and conquer. Three are even better, for a triple-braided cord is not easily broken."

Authentic Connection is Essential for Facing Adversity

Proverbs 10:17

"A friend loves at all times, and a brother is born for a time of adversity."

Arabic proverb, "When all is well, it is easy to forget who your friends are. But when things get hard, you will know..."

Authentic Connection is Essential for Walking with God

- Example of Jesus

Matthew 26:37-38

"He took Peter and Zebedee's two sons, James and John, and he became anguished and distressed. ³⁸ He told them, "My soul is crushed with grief to the point of death. Stay here and keep watch with me."

Mark 6:7

"And he called his twelve disciples together and began sending them out two by two, giving them authority to cast out evil spirits."

- Example of Paul

Disclaimers:

1) No group or church can make friends for us.

2) While we can and should be friendly with everyone, we cannot be friends with everyone.

Challenge: It's not all about us.

Authentic Connection is Essential for Showing the World the Love of Christ

John 17:20-23

"My prayer is not for them alone. I pray also for those who will believe in me through their message, ²¹ that all of them may be one, Father, just as you are in me and I am in you. May they also be in us so

that the world may believe that you have sent me. ²² I have given them the glory that you gave me, that they may be one as we are one— ²³ I in them and you in me—so that they may be brought to complete unity. Then the world will know that you sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me."

John 13:34-35 (NLT)

"So now I am giving you a new commandment: Love each other. Just as I have loved you, you should love each other. ³⁵ Your love for one another will prove to the world that you are my disciples."

Notes
