



How To: Relationships | Panel | 6.7-8

Weekly Study

SHARE

Welcome! This weekend we continued our **“How To: Relationships”** series with special panel conversations hosted by Pastor Ethan, featuring couples from our church who’ve walked through decades of marriage, parenting, sacrifice, and spiritual growth. This week’s message moved us from theory to testimony, offering honest insight and God-honoring wisdom from real people living out the Gospel in family life.

We heard about conflict and connection, boundaries and bold faith, and the unshakeable importance of putting God first. These couples didn’t just talk about tips and tricks, they revealed a way of life shaped by Scripture, surrender, and commitment. As we reflect on their stories, we’ll lean into the biblical call to love, lead, and serve one another with purpose.

☐ **What stories or themes from the panel stuck with you most—and why?**

GROW

Read Colossians 3:12-17

☐ **Why do you think Paul emphasizes both gratitude and forgiveness in the same breath when talking about relationships?**

Paul’s letter calls believers to "put on" compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience, traits that are essential for any home to flourish. He urges us to forgive as the Lord forgave us, and to let peace rule in our hearts. The Word of Christ, Paul says, should dwell in us richly, shaping every interaction with grace and gratitude.

This passage provides the backbone for Gospel-centered relationships. The couples on stage didn’t paint perfect pictures, they shared how they’ve returned to these traits again and again. Whether through parenting struggles, communication breakdowns, or seasons of sacrifice, the common thread was this: when Christ is central, love becomes resilient, and families become places of

peace.

- ☐ **How have you seen God use family or marriage as a tool to shape your character?**

MOVE

Read Joshua 24:15

“But as for me and my household, we will serve the Lord.” These words were spoken in the context of choosing faithfulness in a culture of idols. Pastor Ethan and the panel emphasized how every family must answer this question daily, who will we serve? Not just in belief, but in budget, schedule, values, and how conflict is handled.

- ☐ **How can you create more intentional spiritual rhythms in your home?**

Spiritual leadership in the home isn’t about perfection, it’s about direction. Couples described rhythms of prayer, serving together, and setting boundaries with technology and time. They reminded us that small choices shape legacies. It’s not about a moment, but a million moments of choosing God together.

- ☐ **What’s one area where your family or closest relationships could realign with Christ?**
- ☐ **Who are you letting shape your home, relationships and who you are; God, culture, or convenience?**

PRAY

Take time as a group to pray over families, relationships and homes. Pair up and exchange one personal area where you want to grow, then commit to praying for each other throughout the week.

- For marriages to reflect Christ through service and surrender
- That families would center their lives around God's presence
- For spiritual leadership to rise up in every season
- That sacrifice would be seen as worship, not loss

CHALLENGE

Choose one new rhythm this week—pray with your spouse, read a short passage together as a family, or unplug for dinner. Start small, but start somewhere. Build the habit, and let God do the lasting work.