

A close-up photograph of two hands, one darker-skinned and one lighter-skinned, clasped together in a firm, supportive grip. The hands are positioned centrally, with the fingers interlaced. The background is a plain, light-colored surface.

REACHING OUT

being who the world needs us to be

And he answered,
"You shall **love the
Lord** your God
with all your heart
and with all your
soul and with all
your strength and
with all your
mind, and your
**neighbor as
yourself.**"
(Lk 10:27)



NEIGHBORS

1Cor 5:9 I wrote to you in my letter not to associate with sexually immoral people-- ¹⁰ not at all meaning the sexually immoral of this world, or the greedy and swindlers, or idolaters, since then you would need to go out of the world. ¹¹ But now I am writing to you not to associate with anyone who bears the name of brother if he is guilty of sexual immorality or greed, or is an idolater, reviler, drunkard, or swindler--not even to eat with such a one. ¹² For what have I to do with judging outsiders? Is it not those inside the church whom you are to judge?

Gal 6:10 So then, as we have opportunity, let us do good to **everyone**, and especially to those who are of the household of faith.

Jhn 17:9 I am praying for them. **I am not praying for the world** but for those whom you have given Me, for they are Yours. ... ¹⁵ I do not ask that You take them out of the world, but that You keep them from the evil one.



What is our relationship with God?

Lk 17:10 So you also, when you have done all that you were commanded, say, "**We are unworthy servants**; we have only done what was our duty."

Matt 6:9 Pray then like this: "**Our Father in heaven**, hallowed be Your name. ¹⁰ Your kingdom come, Your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.

Jhn 14:15 If you love Me, you will keep My commandments.

We must draw near to God for our integrity, character, and direction. He is our Master, our Creator, and our Father.



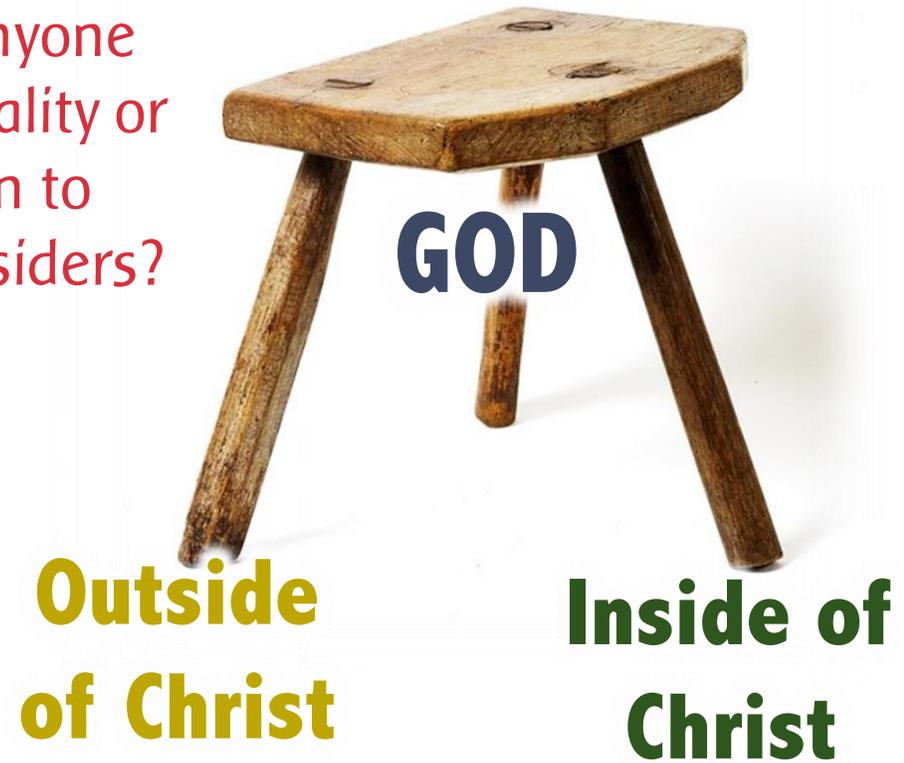
What is our relationship with fellow Christians?

1 Cor 5:11 But now I am writing to you not to associate with anyone who bears the name of brother if he is guilty of sexual immorality or greed, or is an idolater, reviler, drunkard, or swindler--not even to eat with such a one. ¹² For what have I to do with judging outsiders? **Is it not those inside the church whom you are to judge?**

1 Thess 5:11 **Therefore encourage one another and build one another up, just as you are doing. ...** ¹⁴ And we urge you, brothers, admonish the idle, encourage the fainthearted, help the weak, be patient with them all.

Gal 2:9 and when James and Cephas and John, who seemed to be pillars, perceived the grace that was given to me, they gave **the right hand of fellowship** to Barnabas and me, that we should go to the Gentiles and they to the circumcised.

We must draw near to each other for accountability and partnership. Fellow Christians remind us to “hold the line”, and we are more effective together.



What is our relationship with those outside of Christ?

1 Cor 5:9 I wrote to you in my letter not to associate with sexually immoral people-- ¹⁰ not at all meaning the sexually immoral of this world, or the greedy and swindlers, or idolaters, **since then you would need to go out of the world.**

1 Pet 3:15 but in your hearts honor Christ the Lord as holy, always being prepared to make a defense **to anyone who asks you** for a reason for the hope that is in you; yet do it with gentleness and respect,

Php 2:15 that you may be blameless and innocent, children of God without blemish in the midst of a crooked and twisted generation, among whom you **shine as lights in the world,**

We must draw near to those outside Christ for opportunities to serve and proclaim God's impact on us. They are the field and the harvest.



If we have no relationship with God, we are hypocrites

Matt 23:27 "Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you are like whitewashed tombs, which outwardly appear beautiful, but within are full of dead people's bones and all uncleanness. ²⁸ So you also outwardly appear righteous to others, but within you are full of hypocrisy and lawlessness."

If we have no relationship with Christians, we will be weak and discouraged

Heb 10:24 And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, ²⁵ not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some...

If we have no relationship with the lost, we are fruitless and ungrateful

Matt 5:14 You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden. ¹⁵ Nor do people light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a stand, and it gives light to all in the house.

