

2023 DANIEL FAST

R.E.A.L.

Relationships Everyone's Always Looking for

DAY 20

Romans 12:9-13 [The Voice Translation] *“Love others well, and don’t hide behind a mask; love authentically. Despise evil; pursue what is good as if your life depends on it. ¹⁰ Live in true devotion to one another, loving each other as sisters and brothers. Be first to honor others by putting them first. ¹¹ Do not slack in your faithfulness and hard work. Let your spirit be on fire, bubbling up and boiling over, as you serve the Lord. ¹² Do not forget to rejoice, for hope is always just around the corner. Hold up through the hard times that are coming and devote yourselves to prayer. ¹³ Share what you have with the saints, so they lack nothing; **take every opportunity to open your life and home to others.**”*

Dr. Henrietta Mears said, *“Hospitality should have no other nature than love.”* In our present friendships/relationships and those that we will have in the future, one of the areas that is most important is opening our life to another individual. Will they get to know the “real” you? Will you be able to be yourself and let your guard down? Will you pursue new relationships with an open heart? And the exact same questions could be asked of those who befriend you. We *“love others well”* when we take every opportunity to open our life to others.

One of the paramount ways of loving others is letting people see you in your “natural” surroundings, your home. When you open your home to another person or group, you truly are opening your life to them. Your home is your safe place. It’s the place you unwind from a hard day at work. It’s the place you feel safe and secure. Your home is a reflection of you. When people get to see your home and be inside of your home, they get to see who you really are. Your home is a reflection of you.

As we endeavor to strengthen our current friendships and build new relationships always remember that when you open your home to people, you are opening your life to them. So many great memories are made in the home. The opening of Christmas presents, having family over for Thanksgiving, celebrating birthdays and anniversaries, having meals around the table with friends and family, and so much more. Let people see you and get to know who you are, and maybe, open your home so they can get to know the real **YOU**.

It’s time to build Relationships Everyone’s Always Looking for!

Worship Song:

"In Jesus' Name" – Darlene Zschech

<https://youtu.be/OnytGdYuRgg>

Scripture Readings:

Acts 2:42-47 [God's Word Translation] *"The disciples were devoted to the teachings of the apostles, to fellowship, to the breaking of bread, and to prayer. ⁴³ A feeling of fear came over everyone as many amazing things and miraculous signs happened through the apostles. ⁴⁴ All the believers kept meeting together, and they shared everything with each other. ⁴⁵ From time to time, they sold their property and other possessions and distributed the money to anyone who needed it. ⁴⁶ The believers had a single purpose and went to the temple every day. They were joyful and humble as they ate at each other's homes and shared their food. ⁴⁷ At the same time, they praised God and had the good will of all the people. Every day the Lord saved people, and they were added to the group."*

Hebrews 13:1-2 [God's Word Translation] *"Continue to love each other. ² Don't forget to show hospitality to believers you don't know. By doing this some believers have shown hospitality to angels without being aware of it."*

1 Peter 4:7-9 [The Amplified Bible] *"But the end and culmination of all things has now come near; keep sound minded and self-restrained and alert therefore for [the practice of] prayer. ⁸ Above all things have intense and unfailing love for one another, for love covers a multitude of sins [forgives and disregards the offenses of others]. [Prov 10:12.] ⁹ Practice hospitality to one another (those of the household of faith). [Be hospitable, be a lover of strangers, with brotherly affection for the unknown guests, the foreigners, the poor, and all others who come your way who are of Christ's body.] And [in each instance] do it ungrudgingly (cordially and graciously, without complaining but as representing Him)."*

Prayer:

Father, thank You for all you do for me. Thank You for everything I have. Thank You for my family and friends. I need Your help in opening my life and home to others. I want people to know me. I want to operate in the spirit of hospitality. I want others to feel welcomed and loved when they are in my presence and in my home. May I grow exponentially this year in my present relationships and in new friendships that are coming my way. I am ready to receive new people into my life, into my heart, and into my home. In the Name of Jesus I pray, amen!

Today, I need to pray for:

What is God telling me today?
