

**Good morning!**

**Welcome to the  
Meadowlark Church of  
Christ!**

**Visitors, please fill out an  
attendance card..thank you!**

**What does God have to say  
about relationships in general?**

***Love ALL people (Matt. 22)***

***Help ALL people (Gal. 6:10)***

***Spread the Gospel to ALL***

***God wants ALL to be saved (2  
Peter 3:9)***

**The Bible warns against  
alliances and close relationships  
with those who do not have  
Christ-centered values!**

***(Consider the following passages)***

# Relationship Warnings:

- **Deuteronomy 7:3-4**...(to Israel)-  
*"you shall not intermarry"* with  
the pagan nations.
- **2 Corinthians 6:14-18**...*Do not be  
bound together with  
unbelievers..*
- **Ephesians 5:5-11**... *Do not be  
partakers with them .. Do not  
participate..*

# Relationship Warnings:

- **1 Corinthians 5:9-13** ...  
(clarification) *not to associate with any so-called brother if he should be an immoral person..*
- **2 Thessalonians 3:6-15**... *keep aloof from every brother who leads an unruly life ..undisciplined ..not working ..yet do not regard him as an enemy, but admonish him as a brother.*

# Relationship Warnings:

- **Ephesians 6:12**.. *Our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the powers, against the spiritual forces of wickedness in the heavenly places.*
- **1 Timothy 6:3-11 & 2 Timothy 2:15-26**.. Those who teach false doctrine and create problems.

# Relationship Warnings:

- **Titus 3:10-11**.. *Reject a factious man after a first and second warning, knowing that such a man is perverted and is sinning, being self-condemned.*
- **Psalm 1**.. *How blessed is the man who does not walk in the counsel of the wicked, nor stand in the path of sinners, nor sit in the seat of scoffers..*

## 3 Groups to Avoid:

**Muckrakers**

**Mud-slingers**

**Life Haters**

***NOTE:*** *"We become like those  
with whom we spend the  
most time!"*

# What do “Toxic People” do?

- **Constantly complain and criticize**
- **Blame others for their problems**
- **Attempt to make wrong seem ok**
- **Spew out negativity**
- **Drain us of energy to do good**
- **Jealous, controlling, and demanding**
- **Abuse others (verbal or physical)**

# **“Toxic People” (cont)**

- **Take advantage of the struggling**
- **Pull us down into their sin**
- **Speak to you like a child**
- **Make lots of threats**
- **Make their struggles your's**
- **Break the law (excuses)**
- **Continue in their addictions**

**What does Christ offer to help us break free from unhealthy relationships?**



# Christ offers:

- **Authentic relationship**
- **Shows us: good listening skills, compassion, boldness, and courage.**
- **He spent time with sinners, but built strong relationships with his followers.**
- **Rebukes evil, yet offers recovery to those wounded and weak.**

# Christ offers:

- He created the church to “fill in the gap” as an extended family.
- He provides ways of growth and/or escape (Truth, mission, purpose, and Heaven).

**NOTE:** “If a person is not interested in God, our relationship can only go so far.”