

Towards A Biblical “Relational” Youth Ministry: Fellowship in the Church and Home

1. **Rumblings:** *Our young people are extremely relational. How can we channel this focus in a Biblical direction?*

2. **Gripped by the Word:** *How deep do our relationships need to be in order to obey God’s Biblical commands?*

Hebrews 3:12-14—*Take care, brothers, lest there be in any of you an evil, unbelieving heart, leading you to fall away from the living God. ¹³But exhort one another every day, as long as it is called “today,” that none of you may be hardened by the deceitfulness of sin. ¹⁴For we have come to share in Christ, if indeed we hold our original confidence firm to the end.*

➤ Context: (Author, Audience, Situation, Immediate Context)

➤ Command #1

➤ Command #2

➤ What is at stake?

3. **Enriched by Fellowship in Real Life:** *What might God have in store for you?*

4. **Warnings for Strategists Like Me:** *What is God’s ultimate goal in our fellowship?*

5. **A Vision for Fellowship:** *If God captured our hearts with a passion for Biblical fellowship, what would it look like?*

- **Pursuing Biblical Fellowship:** It is our desire to help young people and their parents understand, experience, and crave Biblical fellowship.

Hebrews 3:12-14—Take care, brothers, lest there be in any of you an evil, unbelieving heart, leading you to fall away from the living God. ¹³But exhort one another every day, as long as it is called “today,” that none of you may be hardened by the deceitfulness of sin. ¹⁴For we have come to share in Christ, if indeed we hold our original confidence firm to the end.

- a) **Understand:** Truths about fellowship that God has highlighted

b) **Experience: Ways that God is helping us practice fellowship**

- **Overflow** (Psalm 66:16):

- **Fellowship Rotation:**

- **Awaken:**

- **Other exciting happenings:**

c) **Crave: New frontiers where God is stirring up a hunger for greater fellowship**

6. **Words of Wisdom On Radical Programmatic Shifts** (From Wright, Steve. reThink)

➤ _____

➤ _____

➤ _____

➤ _____

➤ _____

➤ _____

➤ _____

➤ _____

Bibliography

- Beeke, Joel. "Leading Family Worship" session at 2011 Desiring God Conference for Pastors. <http://www.desiringgod.org/resource-library/conference-messages/leading-family-worship>
- Beevers, E. Bradley. "Watch Your Language" in *The Journal of Biblical Counseling*, Volume XII, No. 3, Spring 1994. (This is a helpful article on calling sin by its Biblical names thus enabling us to fight it together.)
- Driscoll, Mark. "Trinity: God Is" online sermon, March 30, 2008. <http://www.marshallchurch.org/media/doctrine/trinity-god-is>
- Grudem, Wayne. *Systematic Theology*. (Leicester, England: Inter-Varsity Press, 1994). (Chapter 14 is especially helpful on the topic of the Trinity.)
- Lane, Timothy and Paul Tripp. *Relationships: A Mess Worth Making*. (Greensboro: New Growth Press, 2008).
- Mahaney, C.J., editor. *Why Small Groups?* (Gaithersburg, Maryland: Sovereign Grace Ministries, 1996). (Chapters 2 and 5 are especially helpful on the topic of fellowship.)
- Maresco, Kenneth and John Loftness. *Equipped: for Small Group Leadership Training Manual*. (Gaithersburg, Maryland: Covenant Life Church, 2005). <http://www.covlife.org/ministries/equipped> (This is a goldmine of free resources, allowing the free download of a leaders guide, a participant guide and 7 audio teaching sessions with the final three all focusing on fleshing out fellowship in small groups.)
- Piper, John. "Eternal Security Is a Community Project" online sermon on Hebrews 3:12-14, August 18, 1996. <http://www.desiringgod.org/resource-library/sermons/eternal-security-is-a-community-project>
- Piper, John. *Future Grace*. (Sisters, Oregon: Multnomah Books, 2005). (As we grow in our understanding and ability to fight sin by hearing with faith we can much more easily live out the calls of Hebrews 3:12-14.)
- Rienow, Rob. *Visionary Parenting: Capture a God-Sized Vision for Your Family*. (Nashville, Tennessee: Randall House Publications, 2009). (This book has some good insights on family worship.)
- Sande, Ken. *The Peacemaker*. (Grand Rapids, Michigan: Baker Books, 2004). (This is one of the best resources on guarding the unity of our fellowship.)
- Tripp, Paul David. *Instruments in the Redeemer's Hands*. (Phillipsburg, Pennsylvania: P&R Publishing, 2002).
- Wright, Steve. *reThink*. (Wake Forest, North Carolina: InQuest Publishing, 2007). (This book on youth ministry vision includes helpful tips on steps to take when making bigger programmatic and or vision adjustments. See chapter 4 & 7, especially pages 126-133 & 212.)