

Authority in Relationships

Week 5

Relationships Reveal Our **Need for Christ**

Our **Relationship with Jesus** Becomes the Model

Submission Expressed Through **Humility** and Love

Lordship Shapes **Conflict, Forgiveness, and Leadership**

Love as **Obedience**, not Emotion

Core Question: *How does surrender change the way I treat people?*

1. Fills Life with Love

2. Elevates Everyone Else

3. Saves Relationships

Practices for Living Fully Surrendered in Our Relationships

#1: Identify a Strained or Difficult Relationship

The “Drain” Test: Who is the person that, when their name pops up on your phone, gives you a sense of dread, defensiveness, or the need to “armor up”?

The “Scorecard” Check: Identify a relationship where you are keeping a mental list of wrongs or waiting for *them* to apologize first.

The “Hidden” Strain: Is there someone you are “fine” with on the surface, but whom you secretly try to impress or outperform?

#2: Practice Becoming a Person of Love

Read one of the 4 Gospels (Matthew, Mark, Luke, or John) and ask yourself the following questions:

1. How is Jesus navigating his closest relationships?

2. What does Jesus say, do, and *not* do with those who disagree with Him?

3. Examine His words, tone, and intentions with His various audiences.