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“Relationship.”

Love would have no outlet without a relationship.

A relationship is the track over which love rolls.

The Ultimate Relational Resolution

Selected Scriptures

I. The gospel often moves naturally through healthy relationships.

Andrew told his brother, Simon Peter, about Jesus:

One of the two who heard John speak and followed Jesus was Andrew, Simon Peter's brother. He first found his own brother Simon and said to him, "We have found the Messiah" (which means Christ). (Jn.1:40-41)

Phillip told his friend, Nathaniel, about Jesus:

Philip found Nathanael and said to him, “We have found him of whom Moses in the Law and also the prophets wrote, Jesus of Nazareth, the son of Joseph.” (Jn.1:45)

Levi (Matthew) invited his friends to a banquet to meet Jesus:

And Levi made him a great feast in his house, and there was a large company of tax collectors and others reclining at table with them.

(Lk. 5:29)

The woman at the well told people in her town about Jesus:

So the woman left her water jar and went away into town and said to the people, “Come, see a man who told me all that I ever did. Can this be the Christ?” (Jn.4:28-29)

Legion told all over his home town how much Jesus had done for him:

The man from whom the demons had gone begged that he might be with him, but Jesus sent him away, saying, “Return to your home, and declare how much God has done for you.” And he went away, proclaiming throughout the whole city how much Jesus had done for him. (Lk.8:38-39)

Cornelius got his relatives and close friends together at his home to hear the gospel from Peter:

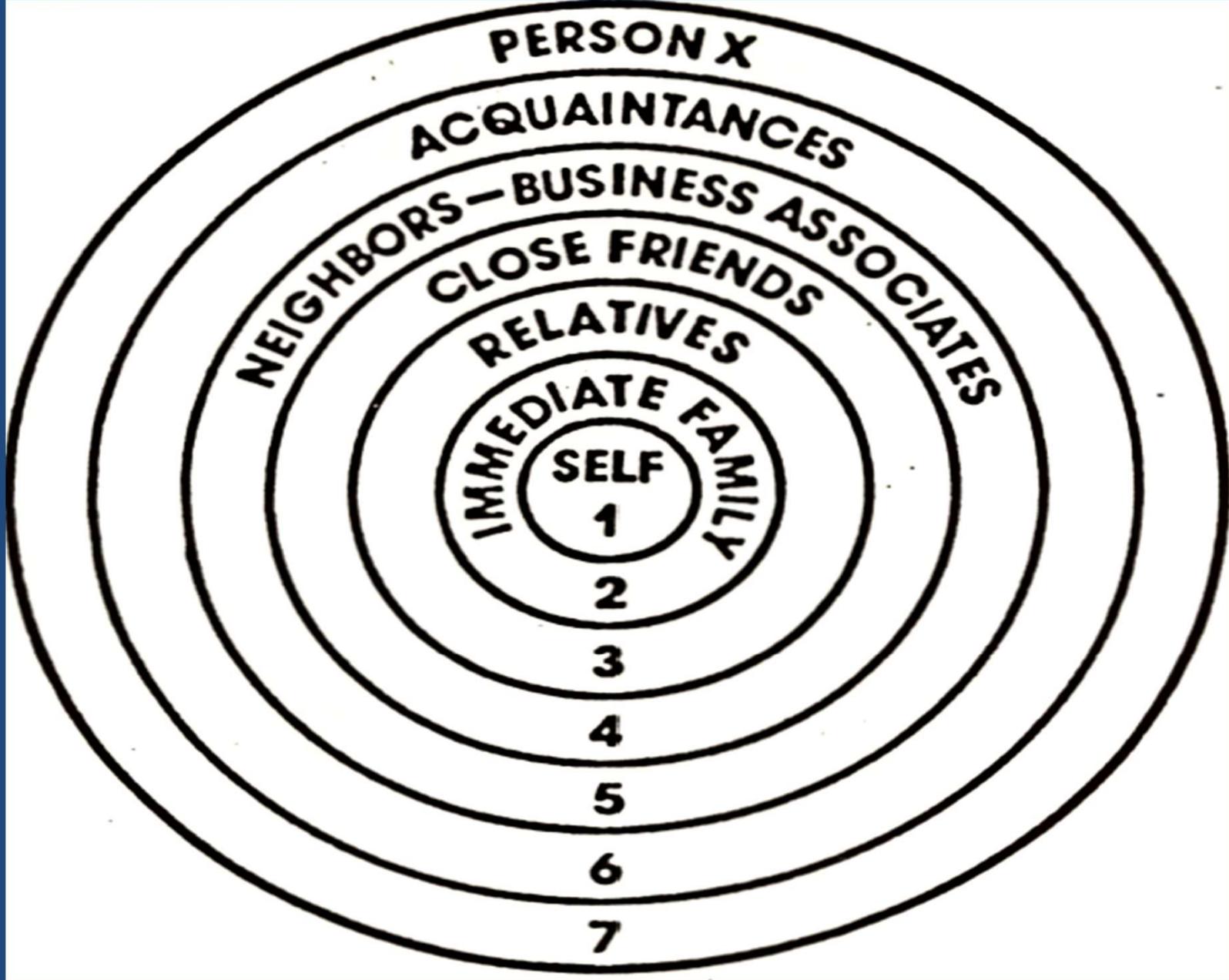
And on the following day they entered Caesarea.

Cornelius was expecting them and had called together his relatives and close friends. (Acts 10:24)

When Paul went to new places to preach, he sought to establish personal relationships with the people:

Because we loved you so much, we were delighted to share with you not only the gospel of God but our lives as well. (1 Thess.2:8)

II. We need to take an interest in the spiritual condition of the people we already have relationships with.



III. We need to develop new relationships with unsaved people.

I would like to develop a friendship with a Christian.
“I’m really interested in what they believe and how they carry out their beliefs. I wish I could find a Christian that would be willing to spend some time with me.”

I wish I could learn to be a better husband, wife, dad, mom, etc., from a Christian. “My wife is threatening to divorce me, and I think she means it this time. My neighbor is a Christian, and he seems to have it together. I am swallowing my pride and asking him to help me.”

I wish a Christian would take me to his or her church.

“I really would like to visit a church, but I’m not particularly comfortable going by myself. What is weird is that I am 32-years old, and I’ve never had a Christian invite me to church in my entire life.”