



INTRODUCTION

Love...complicated. Dating...complicated. Heartbreaks...complicated. No matter if you're married, single, divorced, or remarried, relationships are just complicated. This series can help you get it right.

In relationships, we often believe if we find the right person it will make everything right. So, we ask ourselves, "Is this the right person for me?" Maybe we need to be asking a different question—a question that shifts our focus from seeking the right kind of person to becoming the right kind of person.

PART 2

VIDEO NOTES

Our parents, our friends, and our culture heavily influence our vision of what our ideal partner and relationship should look like. When we first start something brand new, we're overcome with chemistry and all the butterflies. But as our relationship continues, we begin to notice the gaps in our partner — things like their flaws and unhealthy habits. We think, "Maybe they're not the right person for me." At times, that might be true, but what if there's another answer? What if we begin to change our perspective to look at our *own* gaps, our *own* shortcomings? And what if this is not about fixing everything that is wrong in ourselves, but allowing for time to simply remain in Christ? When we take the right position — a branch — we understand it's not our job to produce fruit. Rather, by creating space for God in our lives, we give Him the chance to produce good fruit in us, which often makes our relationships with others much more fruitful.

The wrong **perspective** has the potential to **undermine** any relationship, regardless of how **"right"** the other person is.

LET'S TALK ABOUT IT

1. What influences have shaped your perspective of what an ideal relationship should look like?
2. What would be some of the things on your "Right Person List?"
3. We defined the Right Person Myth as the belief that "once I find the right person, everything will be alright." Why do you think we tend to place so much pressure on our significant other to make us happy or meet our needs?
4. Why is "becoming the right person" perhaps a better pursuit than "finding the right person"?
5. John 15:5 says "If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing." What does it look like in your life to remain in Christ?
6. What are some of the "fruits" that you can look forward to as you become more like Christ?
7. Jesus in John 15:12 says "My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you." Why is it important that this is our foundation for all relationships?
8. If you are already in a relationship, how might focusing on you becoming the right person have a positive effect on your partner?

THIS WEEK

1. We can continue to grow in our relationship with Christ and become the person we want to be by listening to how others practice "remaining" in Christ. What are some new ways you might practice staying in God's love on a daily basis?
2. If you're in a relationship, is what bothers you about him/her somehow tied to a need you're trying to get met solely through that relationship? How might you ask God to meet those needs? If you're not in a relationship, take a candid look at what needs you think might be met by a partner. How might you invite God into meeting those needs now?

"**Remain** in me, as I also remain in you. No branch can bear fruit by itself; it must remain in the vine. Neither can you bear fruit unless you remain in me. 'I am the vine; **you are the branches.**'

John 15:4-5, NIV