

A large, dark, textured cross is positioned on the left side of the image. The background is a rough, stone-like surface with various shades of brown, tan, and grey, suggesting an ancient or weathered setting. The lighting is dramatic, with a bright light source from the right, creating strong highlights and deep shadows.

**AUTHENTIC  
PURSUIT:**  
*Relationships Can  
Be a Challenge*  
*Part 2*

***John 13:34-35***

***A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this all men will know that you are My disciples, if you love one another.***



***Galatians 5:6***

***For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision nor uncircumcision has any value. The only thing that counts is faith expressing itself through love.***



## ***1 Thessalonians 4:9-10***

***Now about brotherly love we do not need to write to you, for you yourselves have been taught by God to love each other. And in fact, you do love all of the brothers throughout Macedonia. Yet we urge you, brothers, to do so more and more.***



# Relationships Are a Challenge

- *Our relational hopes and inclinations have been deeply distorted by our sin nature to one degree or another (Mt. 15:18-19; Jas. 4:1-2).*
- *We limp away angry, disappointed, frustrated and hurt.*



# Redeeming Our Relationships Must Be Rooted in Our New Identity

- *This identity forms my understanding of ...*
- *This identity is formed by encountering Jesus.*



# Redeeming Our Relationships Must Be Rooted in Our New Identity

***2 Corinthians 5:17***

***If anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation.  
The old has gone and the new has come.***



# Redeeming Our Relationships Must Be Rooted in Our New Identity

*1 Peter 2:9-10*

*You are a chosen people, a royal priesthood,  
a holy nation, a people belonging to God,  
that you may declare the praises of him who  
called you out of darkness into his wonderful  
light. Once you were not a people, but now  
you are the people of God; once you had not  
received mercy, but now you have received  
mercy.*





# Redeeming Our Relationships Must Be Rooted in Our New Identity

- *This identity forms my understanding of ...*
- *This identity is formed by encountering Jesus.*
- *This identity places us into a new “in Jesus” community.*



# Redeeming Our Relationships Must Be Rooted in Our New Identity

*Philippians 2:1-4*

*If you have any encouragement from being united with Christ, if any comfort from His love, if any fellowship with the Spirit, if any tenderness and compassion, then make my joy complete by being like-minded, having the same love, being one in spirit and purpose. Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit, but in humility consider others better than yourselves. Each of you should look not only to your own interests, but also to the interests of others.*



***1 John 3:14***

***We know that we have passed from death to life, because we love our brothers. Anyone who does not love remains in death.***

