



Being the Guide: When Relationships Go Terribly Wrong . . .



SOMETIMES RELATIONSHIPS GO *TERRIBLY* WRONG!

- Domestic abuse is a hidden reality in our world.
- Domestic abuse is a hidden reality in the Church.
- Domestic abuse encompasses more than physical abuse.

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SOMETIMES RELATIONSHIPS GO **TERRIBLY** WRONG!

Domestic abuse is "a pattern of coercive or controlling behavior used by one individual to gain or maintain power and control over another individual in the context of an intimate relationship. This includes any behaviors that frighten, intimidate, terrorize, exploit, manipulate, hurt, humiliate, blame, injure, or wound an intimate partner."

Lindsey Holcomb, Justin Holcomb, *Is It My Fault?*

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Relationships Go Terribly Wrong When . . .

- **Cherishing my spouse unconditionally becomes conditional.**
- **My longings become my demands.**

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A person in a red jacket and blue pants stands on a large, dark rock formation. The background shows a vast, hazy landscape with rolling hills and a cloudy sky. The text is overlaid on the right side of the image.

Relationships Go Terribly Wrong When . . .

James 4:1 (NIV 1984)

What causes fights and quarrels among you?

***Don't they come from the your desires that
battle within you?***

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A person in a red jacket and blue jeans stands on a large, dark, layered rock formation. The background is a vast, open landscape with rolling green hills under a sky filled with large, white, fluffy clouds. The overall scene is bright and airy.

Relationships Go Terribly Wrong When . . .

James 4:2 (NIV 1984)

² You want something but don't get it.

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Relationships Go Terribly Wrong When . . .

- **Cherishing my spouse unconditionally becomes conditional.**
- **My longings become my demands.**
- **My unmet demands become a breeding ground for forcefulness and contempt.**

A person wearing a red jacket and dark pants stands on a large, mossy rock formation. The background shows a vast, hazy landscape with rolling hills and a cloudy sky. The overall tone is contemplative and somewhat somber.

Relationships Go Terribly Wrong When . . .

James 4:2 (NIV 1984)

You kill and covet, but you cannot have what you want. You quarrel and fight . . .

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Relationships Go Terribly Wrong When . . .

- **Cherishing my spouse unconditionally becomes conditional.**
- **My longings become my demands.**
- **My unmet demands become a breeding ground for forcefulness and contempt.**
- **My forcefulness escalates into abuse.**

A person in a red jacket and blue jeans stands on a large, stacked rock formation. The background shows a vast, hazy landscape with rolling hills and a cloudy sky. The text is overlaid on the upper portion of the image.

Relationships Go Terribly Wrong When . . .

- We are **blind** or **indifferent** to these patterns and how they **harm** another person.

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A hiker with a backpack is standing on a rocky peak, looking out over a vast, hazy landscape under a cloudy sky. The hiker is wearing a red jacket and blue pants. The background shows rolling hills and a distant horizon.

Domestic Abuse Must Be Confronted

- **God wars against abuse (Malachi 2:16b; Colossians 3:6).**
- **Break the silence.**
- **Know who you are.**

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