

RELATIONSHIP SKILLS 101
See With God's Eyes
Psalm 8

Lesson One: Healthy relationships begin with seeing people the way **God** sees them.

- Since God's view of people is clearer than ours, we should try and adopt his view.

Lesson Two: If God sees each person as a little lower than the angels, so should we. "When I consider your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars, which you have set in place, what is man that you are mindful of him, the son of man that you care for him? You made him a little lower than the heavenly beings and crowned him with glory and honor." Psalm 8:3-5

- In God's eyes, each person is indescribably **precious**.
- In **our eyes**, each person should be indescribably precious.

Lesson Three: When we begin to see people as God sees them, we will begin to **treat** them in a way that is **consistent** with their value.

- We will treat people as though they are **more important** than anything else we deal with in this world.

"Jesus replied: 'Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.' This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.'" Matthew 22:37-39

- Our treatment of people will move beyond **externals** and **labels**.
- Like Jesus, we will treat people with **grace** and **truth**.

"The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the One and Only, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth." John 1:14

- We will realize that our primary task in life is to **love** people where they are and for who they are.

"The commandments, 'Do not commit adultery,' 'Do not murder,' 'Do not steal,' 'Do not covet,' and whatever other commandment there may be, are summed up in this one rule: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.' Love does no harm to its neighbor. Therefore love is the fulfillment of the law." Romans 13:9-10

The Bottom Line: As you deal with the people in your life, try to see them through God's eyes. Then treat them in a way that is consistent with that.

The Ride Home Question: Is there a specific situation in your life where seeing someone the way God sees them would change your actions towards them? Describe the situation.

Study Questions:

1. Think of a time when you stuck a label on someone and treated them based on that label. What were the results of that?
2. How might God view people differently than you do? What might he see that you don't see? What might he look past that you don't look past?
3. Read Psalm 8:3-8 and reflect on the following.
 - What does this teach us about the place God has given people in the created order?
 - What does the fact that he made people a little lower than the angels (or than God—see footnote in the Bible) say about the value of people?
 - How does this impact the way you view the people in your life?
4. Think about seeing people through God's eyes rather than your own and answer the following.
 - How would it change your treatment of people?
 - How would it impact your sense of the value of people relative to the value of other things in your life?
 - How would it impact the kinds of labels you put on people?
 - How does it help you treat people with grace and truth?
 - How does it help you love people?
5. What is the most important thing for you to do as a result of this lesson?