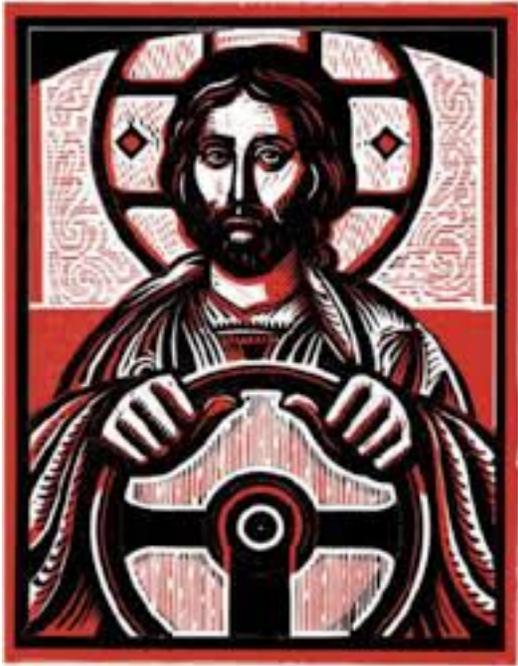


## LESSON PLAN: #RELATIONSHIP GOALS

Ricky Page / April 30, 2017

### Relationship Goals - Part 6 Road Trip



In today's message Pastor Ricky describes the influence we all have on each other and our relationships.

Putting us in the drivers seat of a 1967 Chevrolet Camaro SS he makes the analogy of the influences of the people in our lives to the situations surrounding the one in the drivers seat.

**EZER:** (Hebrew work for helper in Genesis) – is not just partner but a rescuer for a man. I'll make a helper suitable for man. The same but different = suitable like a puzzle piece they go together but they are different.

Dr. Walter Bramson puts it this way. A mighty helper and protector for her husband, one who is able to reveal his enemy in times of danger, thus helping to strengthen and protect the marriage. (see trivia below)

**Opening Discussion - Study Questions: ----- TAKING INVENTORY**

1. Using the car analogy, let's map out our spiritual growth road map. Which of the following best describes your INITIAL spiritual belief condition.

- a. Complete Unbelief (Atheist) b. I wasn't or am still not really sure if God exists (Agnostic) c. I believed God exists d. I was a completely committed follower

Which of the following best describes your desired spiritual condition.

- a. To believe that God exists b. To learn more about God c. To be a completely committed follower

2. Using the car analogy, fill in the blanks with the names of those in your circles.

- a. Who's influencing your spiritual growth from the passenger seat? (Riding shotgun)

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- b. Who have you invited on your journey? (Riding with you in the back seats)

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- c. Who are you travelling alongside with? (In your mirrors going to the same place)

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**Group Activity - Putting Knowledge Into Action: ----- WHERE ARE WE?**

1. From question 2a. Determine if this relationship is a spiritually positive one or a spiritually negative one.

a. They influence me positively b. They influence me negatively c. I influence them positively d. I influence them negatively

2. From question 2b. Identify the current spiritual condition of those riding with you. They are:

a. Non-believers b. Agnostic c. Believe God exists d. Completely committed followers

3. From question 2c. Identify who are you caravanning with?

a. I'm in a group of 1 b. I am with others in church c. I am with others in bible study d. I am with others in ministry

**Going Deeper - Personal Challenge: ----- ARE WE THERE YET**

1. From the beginning of your spiritual walk circle the "mile markers" you have passed, and underline honestly the ones are still ahead of you?

a. I have heard the Gospel b. I Believe c. I am saved d. I've been baptized e. I worship f. I pray g. I have or attend life class h. I study the Word h. I Give (time, talent, & treasure) i. I serve in ministry j. I evangelize the lost.

2. Apply the same question & answers to the other "passengers" in our life.

a. They have heard the Gospel b. They Believe c. They are saved d. They have been baptized e. They worship f. They pray g. They have or attend life class h. They study the Word h. They Give (time, talent, & treasure) i. They serve in ministry j. They evangelize the lost.

**Taking it Home - Application: ----- STOPPING FOR DIRECTIONS?**

If we know our final destination we also know when we will arrive, but how do we know if we are taking the long way, getting good gas mileage or even going the wrong way?

Do we have and are we using our GPS? (God Positioning System) God Himself, with and through His Holy Spirit, and His written Word directs us day by day, mile by mile. Do we have His Word, are we tuned into His Holy Spirit, are we taking His direction?

1. Take inventory along The Way. Am I bearing fruit? Circle the following that apply to you?

a. I am enjoying the fruit of the spirit (Gal 5:22) b. I have been directly involved in others coming to Christ c. I am or have been persecuted for my beliefs d. God speaks to me or intervenes in my life regularly e. Others ask me for spiritual guidance

2. How has God changed or used me differently since my decision to follow Him?

a. Quit destructive habits b. Begun constructive disciplines c. Hear His voice more often d. Obey His directions more quickly e. Am continuously amazed by the deepening of my relationship with Him f. I would not hang out with the "old me" except to share the gospel with me

**BONUS VIDEO:** <https://www.drivethruhistory.com/gospels-free-episode/>

**MEMORY VERSE:** Acts 4:32 "All the believers were one in heart and mind. No one claimed that any of their possessions was their own, but they shared everything they had."

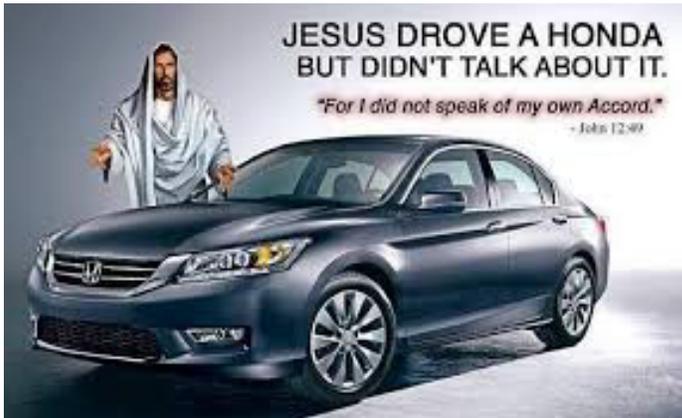
**TRIVIA:** ezer appears in the Old Testament 21 times: Twice in Genesis for the woman, three times for nations to whom Israel appealed for military aid, and here's the kicker — sixteen times for God as Israel's helper! ezer is used consistently in a military context, yes even in the idyllic garden of Eden. The command to rule and subdue put God's image bearers on high alert that resistance lay ahead. God commanded the man to keep, or guard, the garden by using the same military language later used for the cherubim who guarded the garden with a flaming sword. ezer is a warrior. And don't we already know this in our bones? God created His daughters to be ezer-warriors with her brothers. He deploys the ezer to break the man's

loneliness by soldiering with him wholeheartedly and at full strength for God's gracious kingdom.

**QUOTE:** As the centuries pass by, the evidence is accumulating that measured by its effect on history, Jesus is the most influential life ever lived on this planet. The influence appears to be mounting. No other life lived on this planet has so widely and deeply affected mankind.

Kenneth Scott Latourette, former President of American Historic Society

**JOKE:**



**LIFE GROUP PRAYER REQUESTS:**

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