**Last Year on Earth Part 2 - Relationships**

**GOALS & GUIDELINES:**
**ICEBREAKER:  Someone famous you’d like to hang out with?**
**AGREEMENT PRAYER**
**PRAISE**
**EDIFY:**

The Mayan Calendar predicts we all have 338 days left. We aren’t here to argue if the Mayan prediction is correct or incorrect. We want to take this opportunity to contemplate living our last year on earth.

Last week we decided every moment is important and not to be taken lightly. Couldn’t the same be said about relationships? Last week we said that we often take our time for granted… Is it possible that we may take our relationships for granted?

**Q-** How does someone take a relationship for granted?

**Q-** How does someone honor their relationships?

Every relationship should fulfill a role. God created Adam & Eve to be in relationship, but being in relationship is more than simply being in close proximity… Adam fulfilled a role for Eve and Eve fulfilled a role for Adam – They were husband and wife. Cain and Abel were brothers and there was a relationship role that they were to care for each other, but Cain didn’t fulfill his role! Cain kills Abel and then asks “Am I my brother’s keeper?”

Relationships go wrong when we stop fulfilling our roles.

**Q-** What do you think God says about someone who doesn’t fulfill their relationship roles?

1 Timothy 5:8 gives us an example of someone not fulfilling their relationship role – It says they are…?

Talk about strong words! God takes our relationships seriously.

Let’s discuss some of these relationship roles.

**Q-** What is the Role of a… Father & Mother, Husband & Wife, Son & Daughter, Friend?

**Q-** What should we do if we are in relationship with someone who isn’t fulfilling their relationship role?

This is difficult. Let’s look at it this way – Someone not fulfilling their role doesn’t give us a right to not fulfill ours. We should strive to show the fruits of the Spirit… That being said, we aren’t saying you should stay in a harmful relationship or play the part of an enabler as others are hurt. But even as you distance yourself you can show the fruit of the Spirit.

**Q-** Have you ever needed to have a conversation with someone… but kept putting it off? Why do we do that? Does putting it off end up making it worse?

We shouldn’t let these moments pass us by. These are moments where we can clear the air, find forgiveness, and build a stronger relationship.

Internal Q- What if this was your last year to fulfill your relationship roles? Is there a change you should make? Have you been taking relationships for granted? Is there a relationship role I need to fill? **<Pray>**

**Vision: Fulfill your relationship roles every day.**

Goals and Guidelines

1. Grow in relationship with each other
2. Grow in relationship with God
3. Grow in number and multiply

 This is a non-denominational meeting where everyone's thoughts, ideas, and opinions are to be respected. Everyone is welcome and we encourage all to share their feelings.

We will not argue or debate!

We place God's Word as the highest authority.

We all share equally in the ownership of this Connect Group*,* therefore we will all participate in hosting meetings from house to house on a weekly basis.

We will be committed to attendance and arriving on time.

When sharing, we follow 3 simple rules...
Stay on subject
Keep it short
Keep all comments appropriate.

We will build confidence and trust with each other and become transparent.

What is said in here stays in here. No gossip!

Last but not least… We will invite others to our Connect Group!

**John 4:13-17 (NKJV)** What is your life? You are a vapor that appears for a little while and then vanishes.

**1 Timothy 5:8 (KJV)** But if any provide not for his own, and specially for those of his own house, he hath denied the faith, and is worse than an infidel (Unbeliever).

**Galatians 5:22-23(KJV)** But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, temperance: against such there is no law.