

# **RELATIONSHIPS**

## **Talk about.....relationships**

1. Which relationships in your life are most important to you?
2. Your relationship with which person is your closest relationship?
3. What is it that makes that relationship so close?
4. Do you have any relationships with people that you wish were better?
5. What do you think is the cause of problems in relationships?
6. A "Beatles" song once said, "All you need is love." Do you agree or disagree? Why?
7. What do you think the Bible says is peoples' most important relationship?

## **What does the Bible say about.....relationships?**

1. "So God created human beings, making them to be like himself. He created them male and female." (Genesis 1:27, TEV)

God created the first man (Adam) and the first woman (Eve) and for awhile they had a perfect relationship with God and with each other. But when they ate the fruit God had forbidden them to eat, these relationships became bad. Adam and Eve had to be separated from God and they had trouble in their relationship with each other also. Today the situation is still the same: Many relationships with many problems; many relationships without much love.

2. However, God didn't want us to continue to live with a bad relationship with himself and with others. So he sent his Son, Jesus, to die for us. Jesus' death forgives our sin and allows us to have a good relationship with God again.

"At one time you were far away from God and were his enemies because of the evil things you did and thought. But now, by means of the physical death of his Son, God has made you his friends, in order to bring you, holy, pure, and faultless, into his presence." (Colossians 1:21-22, TEV)

3. God sent Jesus to die for us because he loved us. God's love restores our relationship with himself. Because we've received God's love, we are now able to love others and have better relationships with them also.

"This is what love is: it is not that we have loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the means by which our sins are forgiven.....We love because God first loved us." (1 John 4:10,19, TEV)

4. Once, in an ESL Bible Study, the teacher asked her students if coming regularly to the Bible study had caused any changes in their relationships with other people. What do you think the students' answers were?

5. How can God's love help our relationships with other people? We hope you can continue coming to this ESL Bible study to learn more about God's love.