

## NOTES

# RELATIONSHIP



WEEK 2 | Love in the Age of AI

## PRAYER

*"Dear Heavenly Father, we come before You with hearts open to Your truth and love. As we gather today, help us to see the value You have placed in each person here. Guide us to walk in Your truth, valuing ourselves and others as You do. May we be vessels of Your love and grace in this digital age, reflecting Your light in all our interactions. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen."*

## OPENING QUESTION (OPTIONAL)

"What's the funniest or most unexpected thing you've seen or experienced with social media friendships?"



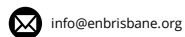
**EVERY NATION**  
BRISBANE

© 2023 by EVERY NATION BRISBANE®

All rights reserved.

Scripture quotations are from The Holy Bible, English Standard Version® (ESV®), Copyright © 2001 by Crossway, a publishing ministry of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

Permission to photocopy this material is granted for local church use. This is not for sale.



## WORD

*"Now in a great house there are not only vessels of gold and silver but also of wood and clay, some for honorable use, some for dishonorable. Therefore, if anyone cleanses himself from what is dishonorable, he will be a vessel for honorable use, set apart as holy, useful to the master of the house, ready for every good work. So flee youthful passions and pursue righteousness, faith, love, and peace, along with those who call on the Lord from a pure heart. Have nothing to do with foolish, ignorant controversies; you know that they breed quarrels. And the Lord's servant must not be quarrelsome but kind to everyone, able to teach, patiently enduring evil, correcting his opponents with gentleness. God may perhaps grant them repentance leading to a knowledge of the truth, and they may come to their senses and escape from the snare of the devil, after being captured by him to do his will."*

### [2 Timothy 2:20-26 \(ESV\)](#)

In 2 Timothy 2:20-26, Paul uses the metaphor of a household filled with various kinds of vessels to illustrate the different ways people can serve God's purposes. Some vessels are used for honorable purposes, others for dishonorable. This analogy is particularly relevant in our digital age, where technology can be used for both positive and negative ends.

David Kinnaman, in "Faith for Exiles," discusses the concept of living in a digital Babylon, where technology constantly influences our values and behaviors. Kinnaman highlights the necessity for resilience and faithfulness in a culture that often promotes superficial connections over deep, meaningful relationships. He emphasizes the importance of intentionality in how we engage with digital tools, urging us to use them in ways that align with our faith and values.

Andy Crouch, in "The Life We're Looking For," makes a crucial distinction between household and family. A household is a place of deep connection and shared life, where people truly know and support one another. In contrast, technology often creates a network of contacts that can be shallow and transactional. Crouch encourages us to use technology as an instrument—a tool that serves our deeper purposes—rather than a device that distracts and isolates us.

The idea of building a "canvas of community" involves using technology to enhance our communal life rather than diminish it. This means fostering environments where real, face-to-face relationships can thrive, supported by digital tools that connect us meaningfully rather than superficially. Similarly, developing a healthy "social architecture" involves creating spaces and practices that promote genuine interaction and mutual support, countering the isolating tendencies of modern technology.

In practical terms, we can maintain healthy relationships in the digital age by setting boundaries on our technology use, prioritizing in-person interactions, and using social media and other tools to complement, not replace, real-life connections. We must also be vigilant against the ways technology can lead us into dishonorable uses, such as engaging in quarrels or being drawn into controversies that breed division.

## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. How has your use of social media or technology influenced your relationships, both positively and negatively?
2. What steps can we take to ensure our digital interactions promote meaningful connections?
3. Intermediate Level: In what ways can we apply the principles of pursuing righteousness, faith, love, and peace in our use of digital technology?
4. How can we balance the convenience of digital tools with the need for genuine, face-to-face relationships, creating households of faith in a digitally driven world?
5. How does social media provoke outrage through clickbait and the marketability of bad news? How can we navigate these challenges while maintaining a Christ-like posture online?

**"Lord Jesus, we acknowledge You as the Lord of our lives and the source of true love and connection. As we navigate the complexities of the digital age, help us to love deeply and authentically, guided by Your Spirit. May our use of technology honor You and build up our community. For those who seek to know You more, we pray they receive You into their hearts today. Lead us in Your ways, now and always, in Jesus name, Amen."**