



Eagle Vision Partner Letter

Keys to Successful Relationships

Part 1

December 2002

Dear Partner,

Greetings in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. I pray this letter finds you enjoying this Christmas season and prospering in every area of your life. During this time of the year, we tend to focus on giving to our family and friends. We spend time with the people that we have personal relationships with. Having successful personal relationships can make life more worthwhile. Whether it is a relationship between a business and customer, a parent and child, a husband and wife or one church member to another, all of us want these relationship to be successful. In this letter I will share with you some keys to help you develop in your relationships and make them more successful.

There are several keys to having successful relationships. The main keys are love, trust, communication, commitment and in a marriage romance and emotional and physical fulfillment are included. In this letter we will be discussing **love** and **trust**.

Love is the foundation. As with any building, the foundation has to be the *strongest* part in order to hold the rest of the structure together. Webster's defines love as an intense fondness or devotion. *Love is more than a feeling, it is a decision.* When you are intently devoted to something, you make a decision to be devoted. And take the proper actions necessary to fulfill your part. So often in relationships people say "I love you" but you don't see any devotion or action behind their words. I challenge you, the next time you tell someone that you love them, see if you can think of at least 2-3 actions that you have taken to show them that you do.

Now we know according to **I John 4:8** that God is love, so when we read **John 3:16** "For God so loved the world, that He (Love) gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life." Let's say it this way "Love gave...". This shows us that love gives. Not only does it give, but it plans and anticipates. God knew what we needed ahead of time and made it a priority to plan how He was going to get it to us. Since Love (God) cares and gives, we should do the same for others. Begin to sow seeds of love in your relationships and you'll reap a harvest of love in your life. (**Galatians 6:7**) After all, everything produces after it's own kind.

Trust equals faith. It's defined as a firm belief or confidence. Our trust should always be in **God first and then others.** When you think of yourself in your relationships as a friend, spouse, etc., can you say that people can trust you? If people put their confidence in you to do something for them, do you come through? We should make it a point not to violate that trust in our relationships. A spouse may be trusting you to take care of something that they requested of you, a friend may be trusting you not to tell everything that they told you. We should live our lives and relate to people in such a way that they can have firm belief and confidence in us ---knowing that we won't let them down.

Always remember that your **trust** and **love** are secure in **Jesus**. Press toward living your life in a way that someone can make that same statement about you. *The greatest investment that you can make is to trust and love Him with your life.* As I have trusted Him with my life and my family's, my relationship with Him has gone to another level. I've seen God come through time and time again. The more that we keep our eyes on Him and trust His word, He will bring us through-- victorious every time!

We truly appreciate your prayers, support and interest. We'd also like to wish our Partners a Merry CHRISTmas and a Joyful & Prosperous New Year.

In His Love,

Harold M. Council
Senior Pastor

P.S. We like to thank those of you that called during the winter ice storm that came through Raleigh, N.C. We were without power (lights, heat) and phone service in our home from Wednesday until Sunday afternoon. There were thousands that were still without power longer than that. Thank God that our families live close and had heat.

Ministry Update

Our first service was great! We had 21 people in attendance. During the first service, two people came forward-- one for salvation and one for restoration. Since we have started the ministry, we have had 13 people saved, 1 restored & 2 baptized in the Holy Spirit. Our Rest Home Rescue Mission is going great. We hold meetings at the rest home every Tuesday. Several people have given their lives to Jesus at those meetings. It is such a blessing to see the smiles on the faces of the people when we go. So many of them are forgotten and haven't felt loved in years.