



DISCOVERING RELATIONAL WISDOM

SIX SKILLS THAT IMPROVE
EVERY RELATIONSHIP IN LIFE!

Personal Study Notes

Lesson 6

One Guidance System Beats Them All

Student Information

Name:

Email:

Mailing Address:

Date Course Started:

Date Course Completed:

"To learn, read ... to understand, write ... to improve, practice ... to master, teach"

STUDY OVERVIEW AND REQUIREMENTS

- Please save these study notes as a Word document in a folder on your own computer or smartphone and answer the questions using your computer or smartphone rather than writing information in by hand. You may cut and paste or type text directly into this document, which will expand as you proceed.
- We encourage but do not require all students to answer at least **half of the questions** in each section of these Study Notes. If you choose to answer more questions, you will see greater improvement in your relational skills.
- If you are taking this course for academic or continuing education credit, for RW coaching or as part of your training for certification as an RW Instructor or RW Coach, you are **required to answer at least half of the questions** in each section of this document and submit a copy of your notes to your instructor or coach for evaluation at the end of the course.
- If you are **taking this course with a group of friends or co-workers**, you may print out a copy of your study notes and take them with you when your group meets to discuss what you are learning.
- You may **answer these questions with as much or as little detail as you choose**. One or two sentences is fine, but if you like to write more, go for it! If you are taking the course as part of a study group, however, keeping your answers relatively concise will make it easier to share them with your group.

A PERFECTLY RELIABLE GPS REFLECT AND APPLY 6A

1. Describe one or two insights you gained from this teaching.
2. What are the ways that God has guided you most clearly and reliably through difficult or emotionally charged situations?
3. Describe a time when you failed to follow God's leading (Scripture, pastoral teaching or counseling, advice of godly friends, etc.) in a difficult situation. How did it turn out?
4. Describe a time when you faithfully followed God's leading in a difficult situation even though you felt a strong inclination to follow your own feelings and desires. How did it turn out?

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5. Bonus question submitted by Corlette (Ken's wife): Speaking of GPS's, why do so many men have such a hard time asking for directions?

GLORIFY GOD

REFLECT AND APPLY 6B

1. Describe one or two insights about relationships you gained from this teaching.
2. What are some ways that you glorify God (celebrate and draw attention to the excellence of his character, works and saving grace) in your day-to-day life? What are some opportunities to bring him glory that you have failed to take advantage of?
3. Do you trust and obey God's leading as confidently and consistently as Sami trusts and follows Chloe? Why or why not? What can you learn from her example?
4. Are you as eager and comfortable talking about God as Sami is to talk about Chloe? Why or why not? What can you learn from her example?

PURSUE AND SERVE GOD

REFLECT AND APPLY 6C

1. Describe one or two insights about relationships you gained from this teaching.
2. What spiritual disciplines do you regularly use to pursue God and learn more about his character, purposes, and plans for your life?
3. What spiritual disciplines would you like God to help you develop more fully and consistently in your life?

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4. What are some specific ways that your life would be different in the weeks and months ahead if you made Jesus’ guiding principle for life your guiding principle? (“The one who sent me is with me. He has never left me alone, for I always do what pleases him” John 8:29.)

RW IN ACTION: ED THOMAS

REFLECT AND APPLY 6D

1. Describe one or two insights you gained from this video.
2. What aspects of Ed Thomas’ faith and character provided inspiration and guidance to his family and community as they sought to navigate two life-shaking crises?
3. Describe someone whose example has helped you to navigate difficult life situations
4. How can intentionally Glorifying God, Pursuing God and Serving God help us become better leaders, whether in our family, workplace, church or community?

SEARCH THE SCRIPTURES

Reflect: Having read the supporting Scriptures for this lesson, how would you expand or elaborate on one or two of the key principles in this lesson? Feel free to refer to additional passages that support a particular principle.

DIGGING DEEPER

The following blog posts illustrate different ways to apply relational wisdom in daily life. We encourage you to read the posts that seem most relevant to your life at this time. If you are taking this course for **credit or certification**, you need to read at least **half** of these posts and answer the associated questions.

[Lawyer vs Teacher](#) (How GPS help Ken and Corlette nip a conflict in the bud)

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1. What is your reflex reaction when someone challenges, criticizes or blames you? Is it to please, serve, and honor the Lord? If not, what is your instinctive goal?
2. How do these types of conversations go when you give into your reflex reactions?
3. Can you think of a time when you (or someone you know) changed the course of a difficult conversation by consciously seeking to please and serve God?
4. Is there a situation in your life right now where you could apply this concept? How do you think it might change the course of that situation?

Ready to Be Robbed (Memorized Scripture comes in handy during a robbery)

1. Think of a time when you responded impulsively to someone who disappointed, irritated, or wronged you. How well did your impulses guide you? As you look back on that event, can you think of some biblical principles you wish you'd applied instead?
2. How disciplined are you in studying and memorizing God's Word. Are you satisfied with your practices or would you like to grow in this area?
3. If you could just make a wish and it would happen, which of the disciplines described above would you like to be a part of your daily life? OK ... instead of simply wishing for it, make a decision to start these things now, and pray for God to give you grace to follow through.
4. If you're really serious, find a friend who will join you in developing these disciplines and hold each other accountable for following through.

I Am Christ's! (How robust daily devotionals can give guidance for an entire day)

1. Read the devotional in the blog post out loud, either to yourself or to your family, emphasizing the words, "I am Christ's!" How does that impact you? If it doesn't fill you with joy and confidence, you're not getting it!

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2. What discouragement or temptation are you wrestling with today? How does remembering that you are Christ's put things in a different perspective?
3. How does remembering that you are Christ's impact your view of yourself? Of your gifts and talents? Of your weaknesses and failures? Of your duties and calling as a Christian?
4. How does remembering that you are Christ's change how you view and engage the people around you?
5. If you don't already have a good morning devotional, give Morning and Evening a try. You'll be amazed at how Spurgeon's insights will strengthen your relationship with God and with other people.

Four Ways to Pursue God (Four spiritual disciplines that clarify God's guidance in our lives)

1. How do you pursue a deeper knowledge of and relationship with God? Are you as consistent and earnest as you would like to be?
2. Who do you know who seems to pursue God earnestly and consistently? How does that investment of time seem to impact their lives?
3. If you could change just one thing about how you seek after God, what would it be?
4. If you really want to change in this area, confide in a person who loves you enough to pray for you and to hold you accountable for your goals.
5. For more detailed guidance on developing a fulfilling devotional life, I highly recommend Donald Whitney's *Spiritual Disciplines for the Christian Life*.

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EVALUATE YOUR GUIDANCE SYSTEM

We strongly encourage you to go through lesson 6 in our values-based course to evaluate the integrity of your personal values and discern whether you are consistently living out the values of a Christian worldview. You can view this alternative lesson by going to [this page](#). (If you are taking this course for approval as an **RW Training Representative** or for certification as an **RW Instructor** or **RW Coach**, or if you plan to request **continuing education credit from a secular accrediting organization**, you are required to complete lessons 6 in the values-based course and submit copies of your study notes for evaluation at the end of the course.)