

# **FIREPROOF Your Relationships: Family Ties**

## **Connections**

We have a need for connections to people and God.

Genesis 2:18 *“And the LORD God said, “It is not good for the man to be alone. I will make a companion who will help him.”*

Ecclesiastes 4:12 *“A person standing alone can be attacked and defeated, but two can stand back to back and conquer. Three are even better, for a triple braided cord is not easily broken.”*

## **Connections are created from the beginning.**

Romans 1:19-20 *“For the truth about God is known to them instinctively. God has put this knowledge in their hearts. From the time the world was created, people have seen the earth and sky and all that God made. They can clearly see his invisible qualities—his eternal power and divine natures. So they have no excuse whatsoever for not knowing God.”*

Psalms 139:13-14a *You made all the delicate inner parts of my body, and knit me together in my mother’s womb. Thank you for making me so wonderfully complex!*

1 John 4:10 *“This is real love. It is not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his son as a sacrifice to take away our sins.”*

## **Hindrances to Connections**

Families

Life Without a Mother:

Isaiah 49:14-15 *“Yet Jerusalem says, “The LORD has deserted us; the Lord has forgotten us. Never! Can a mother forget her nursing child? Can she feel no love for a child she has borne? But even if that were possible, I would not forget you!”*

## Life Without a Father

Psalm 68:4-6 *“Sing praises to God and to his name! Sing loud praises to him who rides the clouds. His name is the LORD—rejoice in his presence! Father to the fatherless, defender of widows—this is God whose dwelling is holy. God places the lonely in families...”*

## Life Without God

*“...but for rebels, there is only famine and distress.”*

Parentization--- Abuse of any type

Drug Exposure

Violence

Bullies

School

Racism

Income status

Lack of medical care

Using God to place inappropriate fear for self benefit

## **Restoration of Connections**

Restoration of the soul

Forgive as a choice

Ephesians 4:31-32 *“Get rid of all bitterness, rage, anger, harsh words and slander, as well as all types of malicious behavior. Instead, be kin to each other, tenderhearted, forgiving on another, just as God through Christ has forgiven you.”*

Love through your actions

I Corinthians 13:4-7 *“My Heavenly Father is patient and kind, My Heavenly Father is not jealous or boastful or proud or rude. He does not demand his own way. My Heavenly Father is not irritable and keeps no record of when I do wrong. My Father is never glad about injustice in my life, but rejoices when truth wins. My Father never gives up on me, or loses faith in me. He is always hopeful and endures through every circumstance with me.”*