

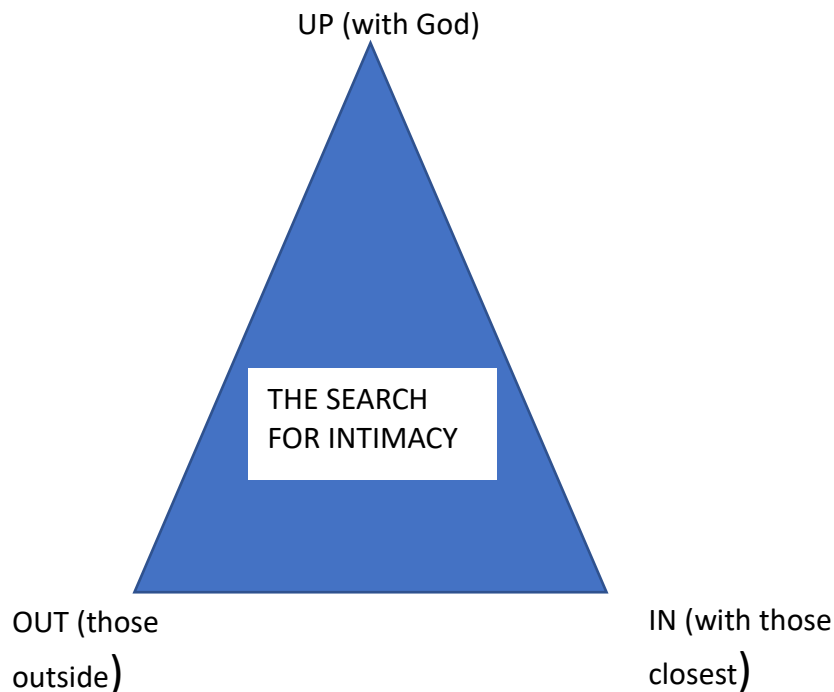
SEARCH FOR INTIMACY - WEEK 2

The Intimate Person

Humans are wired for intimacy on many levels. We explore why you need intimacy from others, what substitutes for true intimacy and how you can experience real connection with others through the way of Jesus.

Warm-up

For those who wish to, share about friendships (outside of marriage) that have been special. Why were they special? Where did they fit in the Intimacy triangle?



READ Gen 2:18-20.

Q: Why do you think God created a companion for Adam? Why was the relationship with God seemingly not enough?

READ 1 Sam 18:1-3 and 20:12-14

Q: What were some of the characteristics of the relationship between Jonathan and David (*affection, loyalty, trust, steadfastness and protection*).

Q: How do you react to this intense relationship between David and Jonathan? Why would it be unusual today?

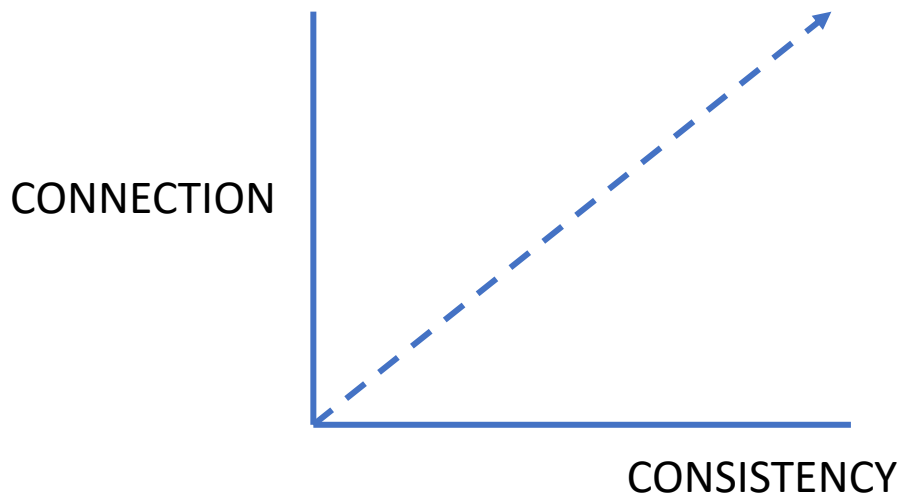
In *Welfare in Australia* (2021) they reported that:

- 1/3 of people reported a period or periods of social isolation and loneliness
- After the pandemic, 54% of people reported feeling more alone than before.
- The group experiencing the highest levels of isolation and loneliness were aged 45-54 (68% of this group).

Q: Why is there so much loneliness in the world? What are people missing?

KEYS TO INTIMACY IN RELATIONSHIPS

Pastor Andrew proposed **Connection & Consistency** as the key elements for intimate relationships.



Q: What stops these types of relationships occurring in our church?

1. *Past hurts*
2. *Fear of opening up*
3. *Sickness or children or time pressures*
4. *Other things that make it hard to show consistency?*

READ 1 Cor 13:4-8

Q: How does this relate to the apex of the triangle at the start (*God created us for relationship. One that is centred in Him can call on His resources. True love is from God*)

Q: What can you do to be a person that can offer a deeper relationship. (*Reach out to others, be consistent and trustworthy, ask God for help*).