Sacred Fellowship

Psalm 34:8 (NIV)
"Taste and see that the LORD is good; blessed is the man who takes refuge in Him!"

2 Corinthians 2:15 (BSB)
"For we are to God the sweet aroma of Christ among those who are being saved and those who are perishing."

Philippians 2:3-4 (NIV)
"Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves, not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others."

James 4:1-2 (NIV)
"What causes fights and quarrels among you? Don't they come from your desires that battle within you? You desire but do not have, so you kill. You covet but you cannot get what you want, so you quarrel and fight."

James 3:15-16 (NLT)
"For jealousy and selfishness are not God's kind of wisdom. Such things are earthly, unspiritual, and demonic. For wherever there is jealousy and selfish ambition, there you will find disorder and evil of every kind."

We can identify these truths from James in three phrases:

- I want what I want. *(naturally selfish)*
- I think I deserve to have it. *(arrogant, entitled)*
- I will do whatever it takes to get it. *(lie, deceive, manipulate)*

Ephesians 4:15 (NIV)
"Instead, we will speak the truth in love, growing in every way more and more like Christ, who is the head of his body, the church."

The Heart Attitudes

Attitude #1	**Rooted in God's**	**Scriptures**
Put the goals and interests of others above my own	• Grace • Love	Phil 2:3-4; John 13:34-35 Rom 12:10; Gal 6:2

- Christ's example was to put others first
- Love is self-giving, not self-seeking

Philippians 2:3-4 (NIV)
"Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves, not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others."

☐ *I am willing to put the goals and interests of others above my own*

Attitude #2	**Rooted in God's**	**Scriptures**
Live an honest, open life before others	• Truthfulness • Faithfulness	Eph 4:25; 1 John 1:7 Eph 4:15; Prov 4:2; 11:13

- Truth in love and walking in the light form biblical community
- Love and discretion guide our openness

Ephesians 4:25 (NIV)
"Therefore each of you must put off falsehood and speak truthfully to your neighbor, for we are all members of one body."

☐ *I am willing to live an honest open life before others*

Attitude #3	**Rooted in God's**	**Scriptures**
Give and receive	• Faithfulness	Heb 10:24-25; Matt 18:15-17
Scriptural correction	• Mercy	Gal 6:1; 2 Tim 2:24-25
	• Love	

- We practice the truth in love
- God commands mutual exhortation and restorative correction
- Our manor must be gentle, humble, restorative

Hebrews 10:24-25 (NIV)
"And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching."

☐ *I am willing to give and receive Scriptural correction*

Attitude #4	**Rooted in God's**	**Scriptures**
Clear up	• Forgiveness	Matt 5:23-24; Rom 12:18
relationships	• Mercy	Matt 18:15; Col 3:13
	• Love	

- Reconciliation is urgent worship business
- We forgive as Christ has forgiven us
- We pursue peace "as far as it depends on you"

Matthew 5:23-24 (NIV)
"Therefore, if you are offering your gift at the altar and there remember that your brother or sister has something against you, leave your gift there in front of the altar. First go and be reconciled to them; then come and offer your gift."

☐ *I am willing to clear up relationships*