



INTRODUCTION

Relevant—Part 3

Rel•e•vant (adjective)

- having a bearing on or connection with the matter at hand
- meaningful or purposeful in current society or culture

Is the church still relevant today? That's a fair question. Here's another: in the face of rapid societal change and unprecedented challenge, does the church have anything to say or contribute to the world that is meaningful and helpful? A lot of people would say "no"—church is old-fashioned and irrelevant to real life.

What do you think?

Tune in to the series, Relevant, as we see how the message, methods, and ministry of The Ridge is more relevant today than ever before.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Can you think of an example where someone was especially kind, good or generous to you, and you weren't expecting it? How did it *make you feel*? How did you feel *toward the person* who extended the kindness to you?
2. Read Mark 12:28-34. Why do you think loving God and loving others are the most important commands? Can you think of how some of the other commands found in the Bible fit into one of these two commands?
3. Read 1 John 4:7-12 and 19-21. What do you think it means to love others the way God loves us? What are some specific things we can do to love others better?
4. Have you ever had an occasion where you did something good for someone, and it opened the door for you to share your faith with them? What might happen if the church were known for the good deeds it constantly does for others?
5. How might you apply this lesson to your life?

APPLICATION

If we are truly believers in Christ, we are recipients of God's kindness. When we receive God's grace and calling in our lives, we realize we don't deserve it and we couldn't earn it. In everyday life, witnessing kindness and love touches us deeply—much like a special, God-like gesture.

Being *inside* the family of God, the church, puts us in a unique position to lovingly meet the needs of people *outside* its doors. We in the church and as individuals should always be thinking in terms of loving God and loving others as Christ did for us.

John Wesley's '*Rule of Life*' cultures this way of living—

*Do all the good you can,
By all the means you can,
In all the ways you can,
In all the places you can,
At all the times you can,
To all the people you can,
As long as ever you can.*

KEY VERSES (CSB)

- Ephesians 2:8-9
- Mark 12:28-34
- Micah 6:6-8
- 1 John 4:20-21