



DATE	March 12, 2017
SPEAKER	David Smith
TITLE	There is a Better Way
SERIES	There's a lot of relationship advice out there. So what's God's prescription for healthy relationships? Let's take a closer look at the book of Ephesians to learn more about God's plan to help our relationships thrive.

1. After listening to Pastor David's message "There is a better way", describe some relationships you now recognize as "unhealthy" that you never before considered as such.
2. Re-visit the eight types of unhealthy people (Demanding, Dominating, Discontented, Disloyal, Disapproving, Destructive, Demeaning, Disrespectful) discuss where some of these play a role in your own personality. How did Pastor David's message impact your perception of yourself?
3. Read Ephesians 5:1-20, focusing on verses 15-20, then discuss how these verses teach us how to deal with unhealthy relationships.
4. Revisit the six Prescriptions for dealing with unhealthy people. (Refuse to be offended, Pr. 12:16; Don't wait for an apology, Col 3:13; Refuse to gossip, Pr. 17:9; Refuse to play the game, Pr. 26:12; Refuse to give in to manipulation, Matt 15:12-14; Always take the high road, Romans 12:14, 21) Which are the hardest for you? Why?
5. Pastor David told us to read Titus 3:10, read that verse, plus the preceding verses and discuss what the author is telling us about how to deal with difficult people. What is in verses 4 and 5 that enables us to do that which Titus is telling us?
6. "Resentment is a poison we drink hoping it kills someone else." Explain this statement with regards to Pastor's advice to forgive rather than waiting for an apology.
7. "Gossip is a form of retaliation with no boundaries." What do you think makes gossip "the biggest sin within the church" according to Pastor David? How does refraining from gossip help deal with unhealthy relationships?
8. What steps can you take today to let love and peace flow from our life and bring healing to unhealthy relationships? (Romans 12: 1-19)