

## SOCIAL BEINGS

Read *Genesis 2:18*. What can we learn about our social nature?

\*God has declared “it is good” seven times; this is the only declaration prior to sin that “it is not good.”

The Triune God is a social being, and He designed man to be social.

- To relate to God (John 17:3)
- To relate to family (Ephesians 5:22-6:4)
- To relate to the church (Hebrews 10:24-25)
- To relate to the community (John 17:18)

Why are relationships so *hard* then?!?

Relationships are broken by sin!

Relationships take dedication to unity.

God hates broken relationships

- Divorce in marriage (Malachi 2:16)
- Disunity in the church (Ephesians 4)
- Disorder in society (James 3:16)

How can we maintain unity and peace in our relationships?

## FOR PERSONAL STUDY:

### Application

1. Consider some of your closest relationships. How do those relationships bring you joy in your life? How do those relationships draw you nearer to God?
2. Consider some of your struggling relationships. Can you identify what has caused the rift in those relationships? Are you willing to do the hard work of confessing and forgiving sin for the repair of those relationships?
3. Are you actively involved with a church where you have committed yourself as a member? Why or why not?

### Memorization

1. Memorize and meditate on 1 John 1:7
2. Review Revelation 5:9.
3. Challenge: Memorize all of Psalm 8 throughout this study. (Psalm 8:8 this week)

### Preparation

1. Why do you suppose there is so much addiction and discontent in our world? In what ways do you struggle with addiction and discontent?
2. What are some ways you are tempted to boast and exalt yourself? How can you gain perspective on yourself, including your talents and gifts?