

# REFLECTIONS ON RELATIONSHIPS



## *Dialogs Between Two Friends*

**Reader 1.** I'm sorry.

**Reader 2.** I'm not sorry. *[Move a stone away from the pile.]*

**Reader 2.** Let's make up.

**Reader 1.** It will never be the same. *[Move a stone.]*

**Reader 1.** There's still hope for us.

**Reader 2.** It's hopeless. *[Move a stone.]*

**Reader 2.** I didn't mean to hurt you.

**Reader 1.** I don't accept your apology. *[Move a stone.]*

**Reader 1.** Let's be friends again.

**Reader 2.** I don't need you. *[Move a stone.]*

**Reader 2.** Let's forgive and forget.

**Reader 1.** It's too hard to forgive you. *[Move a stone.]*

**Reader 1.** Let's start over again.

**Reader 2.** It won't work. *[Move a stone.]*

**Reader 2.** I love you.

**Reader 1.** Good-bye. *[Move a stone.]*

## ***We Listen with Our Heart***

### **Reader 3.**

When I listen with my heart  
I stop playing the game of nonlistening.  
In other words,  
I step inside the other's skin;  
I walk in his or her shoes;  
I attempt to see things from that person's point of view;  
I establish eye contact;  
I give the person conscious attention;  
I reflect my understanding of the other's words;  
I question;  
I clarify.  
Gently,  
I draw the other out  
as lips stumble over words,  
as the face becomes flushed,  
as the other turns his or her face aside.  
I make the other feel that I understand  
that he or she is important,  
that I am grateful that the other trusts me enough  
to share deep, personal feelings with me.  
I grant the person worth.

## ***1 Corinthians 13:4–8***

**Reader 4.** A reading from First Corinthians: *[Pause.]*  
Love is patient; love is kind;

**Reader 5.** love is not envious or boastful or arrogant or rude.

**Reader 6.** It does not insist on its own way;

**Reader 7.** it is not irritable or resentful;

**Reader 8.** it does not rejoice in wrongdoing,

**Reader 9.** but rejoices in the truth.

**Reader 10.** It bears all things, believes all things,

**Reader 11.** hopes all things, endures all things. *[Pause.]*  
The Word of the Lord.