

## House On The Rock Life Group Study outline 2022

### October: My Brother's Keeper

#### Week 2 – Keeping my brother

##### Introduction

The world doesn't just understand the importance of relationships, but also how vital it is to sustain them. Towards this end, different types of models or frameworks have been built around individual behavioural patterns, with the aim of identifying key traits unique to each individual. The hope is that understanding these traits will help to successfully foster and sustain relationships. While generally helpful, these models also suggest that individuals with traits that do not necessarily connect according to biological traits cannot successfully foster a relationship.

As Christians, we are called to build and maintain brotherly relationships with all peoples. This would be an impossible task using only the natural mind. But the scriptures show us a better way, with the empowerment of the Holy Spirit to walk in brotherly love.

##### Pilot text

***Gal 5:22-23 22But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, 23 gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law.***

***John 13:34-35 "34A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. 35 By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another."***

- Reflections on the pilot texts [Open discussion]
  - What resonates from the introduction and pilot texts?
- What do the scriptures tell us about building and maintaining brotherly relationships?
  - [Gal 5:22-23](#), [1 Cor 1:9](#), [Acts 2:42](#), [Matt 18:21-22](#), [Gal 6:2](#)
- Experience share: How did you build your most enduring and fulfilling brotherly relationships? When sharing, please tell us:
  - How long has the relationship lasted (in years)?
  - What practical things have you been doing to keep it going?
- How have you dealt with challenges in your brotherly relationships?
  - What were some of those challenges and how did you deal with them?
  - How did you successfully resolve (the inevitable) conflict?
- Take home actions
  - What have you learnt from today, that you can use to improve your current and future relationships?