

TOP 12 COMMONLY IDENTIFIED NEEDS¹

- 1. Acceptance:** Receiving another person willingly and unconditionally especially when the other's behavior has been imperfect. Being willing to continue loving another in spite of offenses or differences. (*Rom. 15:7*). *"Therefore, accept one another, just as Christ also accepted us to the glory of God."*
- 2. Admonition:** Constructive guidance in what to avoid; to warn; gentle and friendly reproof. (*1 Thes. 5:14*) *"We urge you, brethren, admonish the unruly, encourage the fainthearted, help the weak, be patient with everyone."*
- 3. Affection:** Expressing care and closeness through physical touch. Saying "I love you." (*Rom. 16:16*) *"Greet one another with a holy kiss..."* (*Mark 10:16*) *"And they were bringing children to him so that He might touch them...And He took them in His arms and began blessing them, laying His hands on them."*
- 4. Appreciation:** Expressing gratefulness through thanks, praise or commendation. Recognizing effort or accomplishment. (*Col. 3:15b*) *"...and be thankful"* (*1 Cor. 11:2*) *"Now I praise you because you remember me in everything and hold firmly to the traditions just as I delivered them to you."*
- 5. Approval (Blessing):** Expressed commendation; to have or express a favorable opinion of; think and speak well of; building up or affirming another; affirming the fact and importance of a relationship. (*Eph. 4:29*) *"Let no unwholesome word proceed from your mouth, but only such a word that is good for edification according to the need of the moment, so that it will give grace to those who hear."*
- 6. Attention:** Conveying appropriate interest, concern, and care; taking thought of another; entering another's world. (*1 Cor. 12:25*) *"so that there may be no division in the body, but that the members may have the same care for one another"*
- 7. Comfort:** Responding to a hurting person with words, feelings, and touch; to hurt with and for another's grief or pain; to give consolation with tenderness. (*Rom. 12:15b*) *"...and mourn with those who mourn"* (*Matt. 5:4*) *"Blessed are those who mourn for they will be comforted."*
- 8. Encouragement:** Urging another to persist and persevere toward a goal; stimulating toward love and good deeds. *1 Thes. 5:11* *"Therefore encourage one another and build up one another..."* (*Heb. 10:24,25*) *"and let us consider how to stimulate one another to love and good deeds...encouraging one another..."*
- 9. Instruction:** Modeling, equipping and training in how to live. (*2 Tim. 3:16*) *"All Scripture is inspired by God and profitable for teaching, reproof, correction and training in righteousness."*
- 10. Respect:** Valuing and regarding another highly; treating another as important; honoring another; conveying great worth. *Rom. 12:10b* *"give preference to one another in honor;"*
- 11. Security (Peace):** Harmony in relationships; freedom from fear or threat of harm. (*Rom. 12:16,18*) *"Be of the same mind toward one another...If possible, so far as it depends on you, be at peace with all men."*
- 12. Support:** Coming alongside and gently helping with a problem or struggle; providing appropriate assistance; to help carry a load. (*Gal 6:2*) *"Bear one another's burdens, and thereby fulfill the law of Christ."*

¹ Adapted from, *Top Ten Relational Needs*, Dr. David Ferguson, Intimate Life Ministries
www.christwaycounseling.com