



UNDERSTANDING THE CHALLENGE:

Mending relationships is inherently difficult because repairing relationships is not an intuitive skill. Therefore, the first step to repair is *recognizing the complexity of the task*. Only then can you begin the road to a repair that will last.

FOUR KEY DECISIONS FOR RELATIONSHIP REPAIR:



1. Getting Back to, Not Getting Back At:

To start your relationship repair process, you must *ditch the need for revenge and opt for reconciliation instead*. Making this decision will allow you to hit the reset button without keeping score. After all, who needs payback when you can have a fresh start? And genuine repair involves a commitment to reconciliation rather than seeking to settle scores.



2. Owning One's Slice of the Blame:

Once you've left the revenge plot behind, go ahead and grab a mirror and take a look. Whether you believe it or not, it takes two to move away from a relationship. *Acknowledging personal responsibility is crucial to repair*. So, own your portion and remove the blame—doing so will make the path to reconciliation much clearer.



3. Making the First Move:

Regardless of who initiated this withdrawal, it's time to step up and *make the first move*. Be the mature one and take the first steps toward repair, you'd be surprised at the distance you can get when you remove pride from the equation.



4. Keeping the Door Open and the Welcome Mat Out

Finally, no matter how they respond to the first move you made, make sure you keep a welcoming posture that always invites them back in. Never completely close the door to that relationship, even if they walk the other way. Sure, set some boundaries for those who are unsafe, but for those whom reconciliation is possible, keep that door open and the welcome mat rolled out. It's the ultimate invitation to a satisfied life.

AN INVITATION:

The responsibility that Jesus followers have is to follow this roadmap and reflect the same forgiveness our heavenly Father has given us. And hey, if you're not a Christian, or maybe used to be a Christian but walked away, there's still an invitation here for you. When relationships break, faith often stumbles, but there's still a reset button you can hit. There is hope to be held and a possibility of healing for your heart through taking a step toward reconciliation with God. His door will always be open with a grand welcome mat laid out just for you.

CONCLUSION:

Relationships are unpredictable, they are undoubtedly challenging and repairing them requires intentional decisions. But embrace humility, own your part, make the first move, and keep those doors open. It won't just fix your relationships; it'll also help you live without regrets and deepen the connections you have within those relationships. It's your move!