

What makes a relationship strong?

w/ family...w/God

What weakens relationships most?

We cease to HONOR – reverence, hold in high esteem

How to know your connected?

How to recognize when you start to disconnect?

1993 relationship seminar...

What is **a closed spirit**? Dr. Gary Smalley defines “spirit” as, “a person's innermost being.” A person with a closed spirit has usually been hurt and has stopped being vulnerable to others

(or specifically the person who has offended them).

They tend to stop communicating with others on a deep, meaningful level.

(18 ways) How we treat someone to close their spirit:

- Not showing interest in things that are important to them
- Making them feel inadequate
- Breaking promises
- Criticizing unjustly
- Telling them their opinions do not matter
- Never saying, “I love you” or showing affection
- Never spending one-on-one time
- Being insensitive
- Speaking harshly
- Being inconsistent
- Not praising them for their accomplishments
- Ignoring them when they are seeking help
- Arguing with
- Not being able to control anger
- Being sarcastic or making sarcastic remarks
- Making fun of their dreams
- Insulting them in front of others
- Showing favoritism to others

Subconsciously, we all treat God like this. (to some level)

Reverse it and **OPEN their spirit**