

STAGES OF RELATIONSHIPS

Stage 1 - Mutual sharing of information

Examples:

The weather is going to be

How about those Lions!

I have to work overtime tomorrow. What is your schedule like?

Stage 2 - Mutual sharing of our opinion

Examples:

The weather is not what I expected today.

The Lions are never going to amount to anything!

The boss demands just too much of me. What do you think?

Stage 3 - Mutual sharing of our feelings

Examples:

All this rain really makes me sad.

I get so angry when the Lions keep losing.

My job is making me really depressed. How about you?

Stage 4 - Mutual sharing of our lives deeply

Examples:

I would like to have lunch with you to discuss your health. It really has me concerned!

Tomorrow, let's go see the Lions get trounced. I want to spend more time with you.

I am not doing the work God really has called me to do. Can we find time to talk about it?

True intimacy requires: (see Ecclesiastes 4:9-12 for some of the benefits)

- 1) The risk of being hurt (vulnerability)
- 2) The risk of costing us something (inconvenience)

Read Luke 10:27:

- ◆ Regarding your relationship with God, on a scale of 1-10, where is it now?
What do you need to do to get it to a 10?
- ◆ Regarding another person in your life, on a scale of 1-10, where is it now?
What do you need to do to get it to a 10?

***We love to the extent that we are willing
to be vulnerable and inconvenienced!***