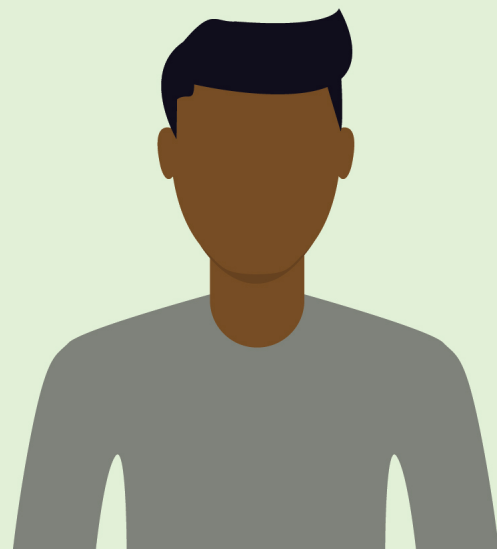
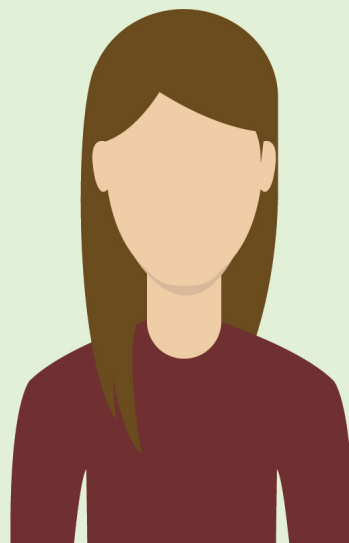
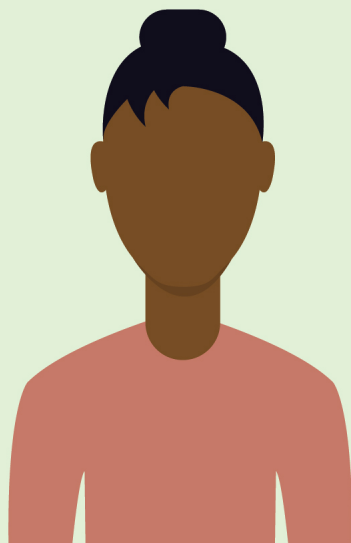
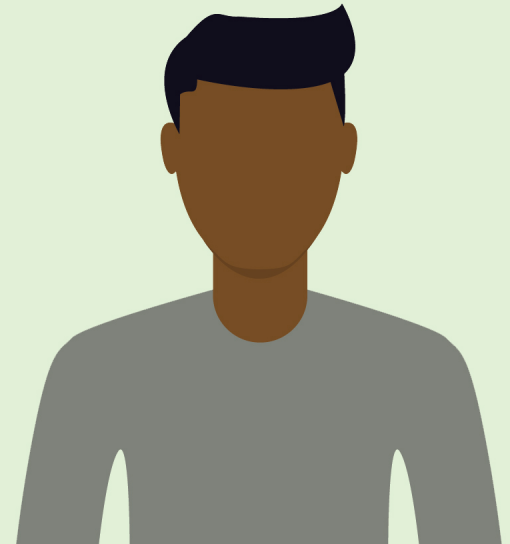
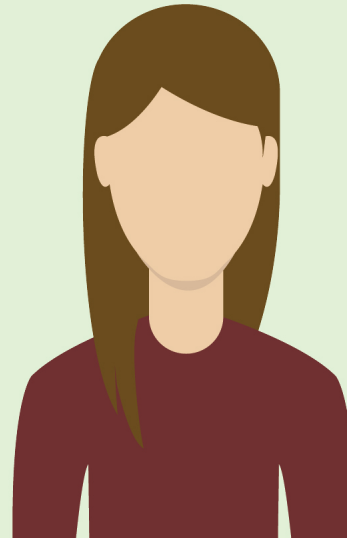
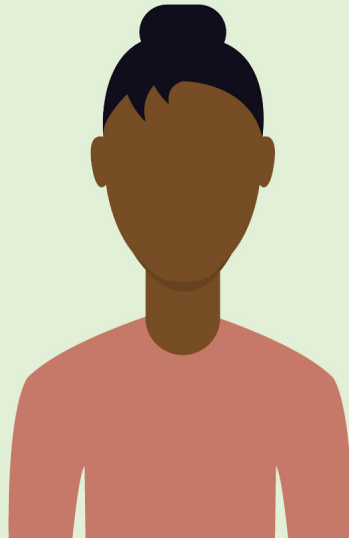
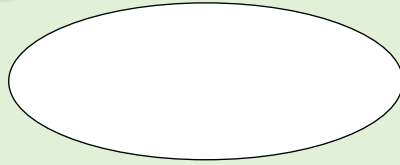


#The Struggle is Real
#RELATIONSHIPS

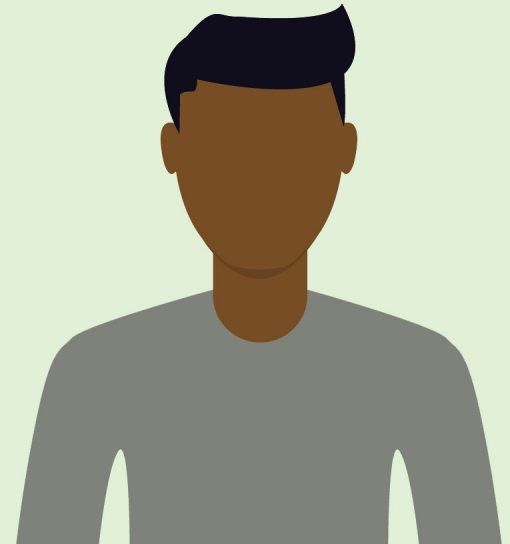
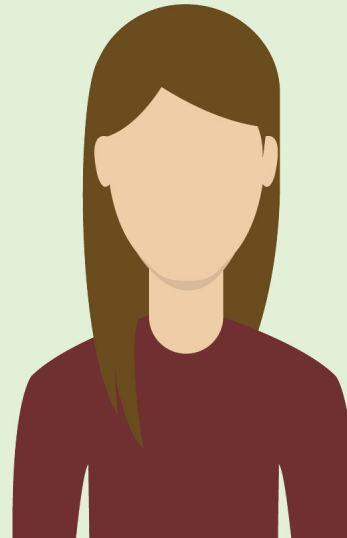
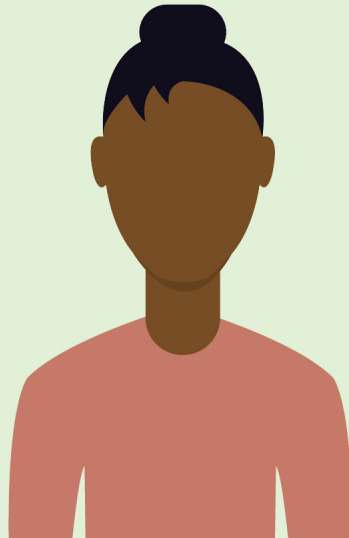


We are designed for relationship...



We are designed for relationship...

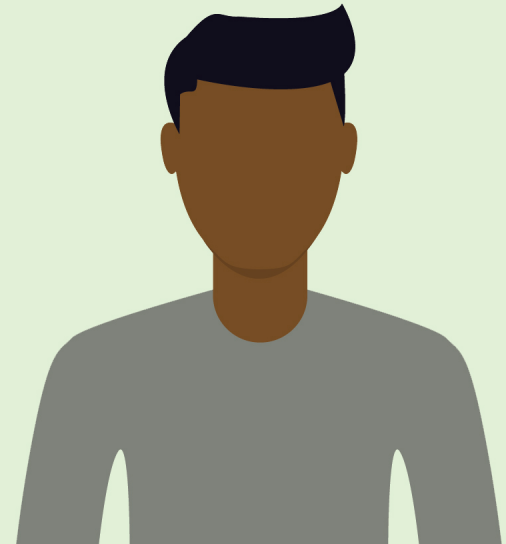
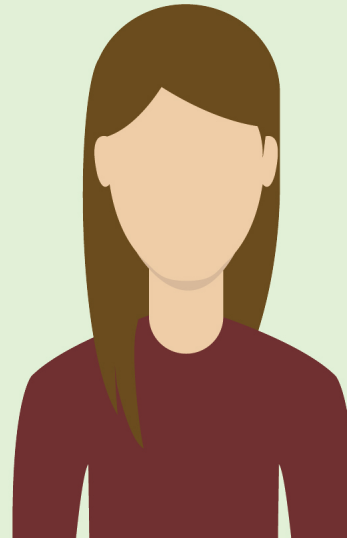
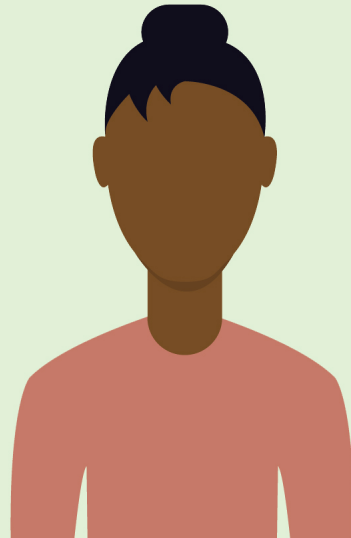
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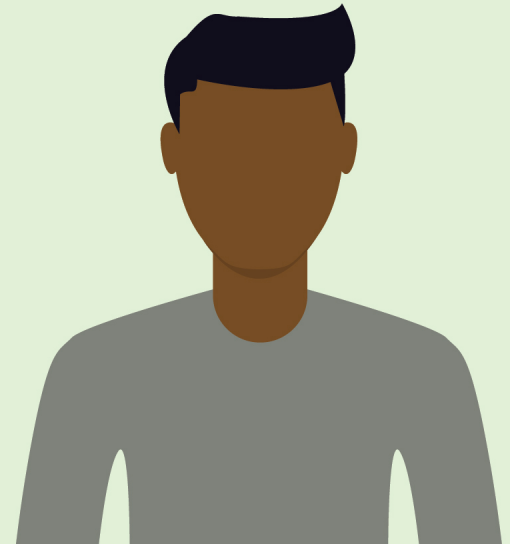
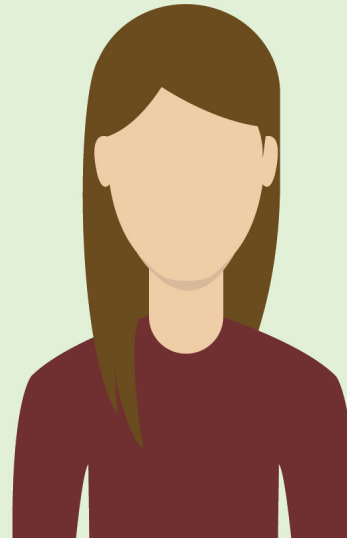
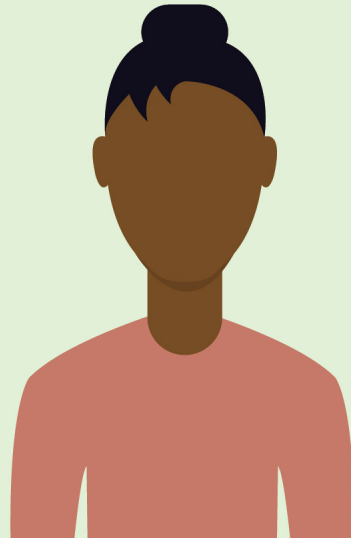
We are designed for relationship...


but...

they can be the source of all sorts of pain!

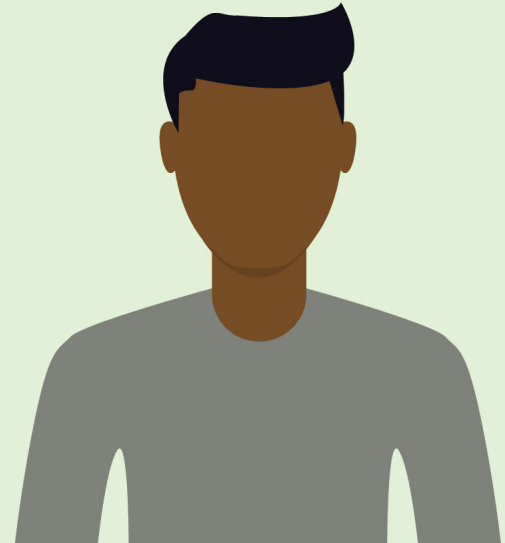
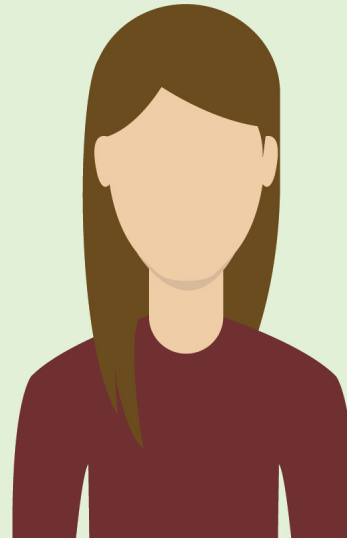
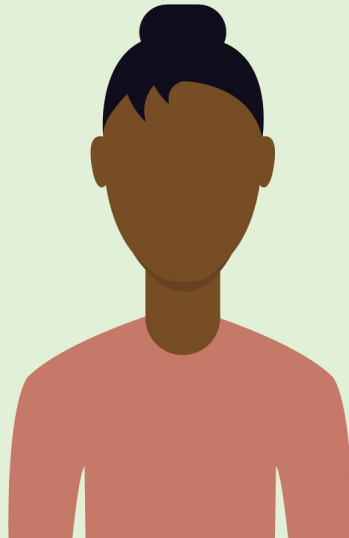


which makes it difficult to love!

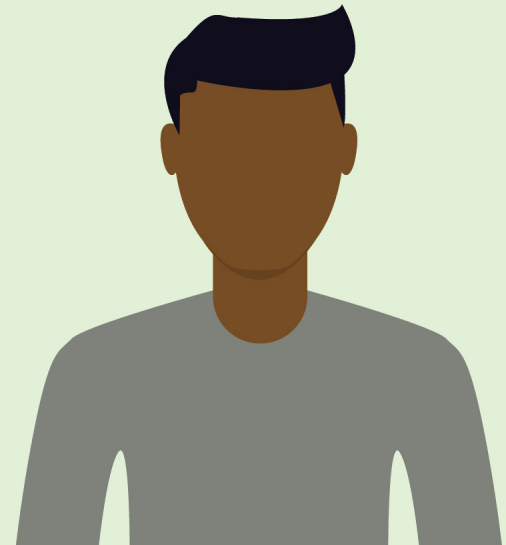
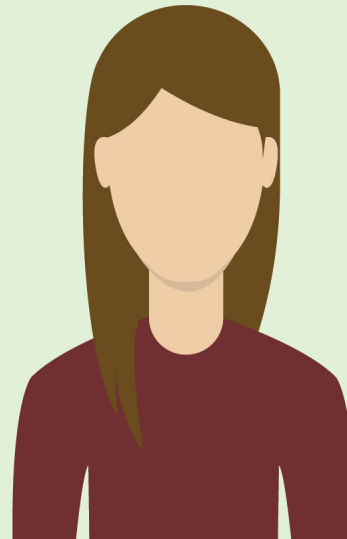
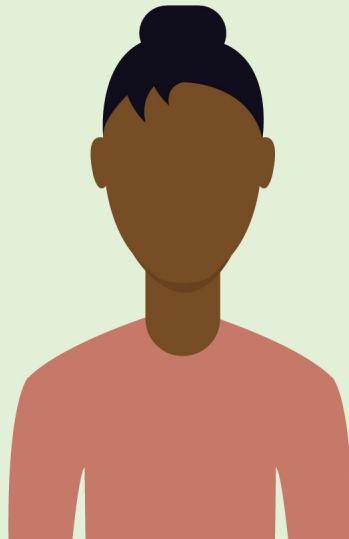





I'm not sure I have the time or energy for a serious relationship in this chaotic unpredictable malaise of people!




*Will anybody
ever choose me,
want me, or make
me their special
someone?*



An illustration featuring four stylized human figures at the bottom, representing diverse genders and ethnicities. Above them are several overlapping speech bubbles in various colors (blue, brown, red, grey). The central speech bubble contains the text: "I looked forward to having kids but everything went down hill when they learned to say NO." The background is a light green color.

I looked forward to
having kids but
everything went down
hill when they learned
to say NO.

An illustration featuring four stylized human figures in a row at the bottom. From left to right: a man with brown hair and glasses wearing a blue long-sleeved shirt; a woman with dark skin and hair in a bun wearing a pink long-sleeved shirt; a woman with light skin and long brown hair wearing a maroon long-sleeved shirt; and a man with dark skin and short dark hair wearing a grey long-sleeved shirt. Above them are three overlapping speech bubbles. The largest, light blue bubble is on the left. A medium-sized, dark red bubble overlaps it. A smaller, light red bubble overlaps the dark red one and contains the text. The background is a solid light green color.

*She wasn't like
this when we were
dating...what happened
to the woman I fell in
love with?*



We are designed for relationship...

Genesis 1-2

We are designed for relationship...

Genesis 2:18-25

18 Then the LORD God said,

“It is not good that the man should be alone;
I will make him a helper fit for him.”

19 Now out of the ground the LORD God had formed every beast of the field and every bird of the heavens and brought them to the man to see what he would call them. And whatever the man called ever living creature, that was its name.

20 The man gave names to all livestock and to the birds of the heavens and to every beast of the field.

But for Adam there was not found a helper fit for him.

Genesis 2:18-25

18 Then the LORD God said,

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20 The man gave names to all livestock and to the birds of the heavens and to every beast of the field.

But for Adam there was not found a helper fit for him.

We are designed for relationship...

- 21 So the LORD God caused a deep sleep to fall upon the man, and while he slept took one of his ribs and closed up its place with flesh.
- 22 And the rib that the LORD God had taken from the man He made into a woman and brought her to the man.
- 23 And the man said,
 - 24 Therefore a man shall leave his father and his mother and hold fast to his wife, and they shall become one flesh.
 - 25 And the man and his wife were both naked and were not ashamed.

We are designed for relationship...

- 21 So the LORD God caused a deep sleep to fall upon the man, and while he slept took one of his ribs and closed up its place with flesh.
- 22 And the rib that the LORD God had taken from the man He made into a woman and brought her to the man.
- 23 And the man said,

"Now that's what I'm talkin' about!"

- 24 Therefore a man shall leave his father and his mother and hold fast to his wife, and they shall become one flesh.
- 25 And the man and his wife were both naked and were not ashamed.

We are designed for relationship...

- 21 So the LORD God caused a deep sleep to fall upon the man, and while he slept took one of his ribs and closed up its place with flesh.
- 22 And the rib that the LORD God had taken from the man He made into a woman and brought her to the man.
- 23 And the man said,
**“This at last is bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh;
she shall be called Woman,
because she was taken out of Man.”**
- 24 Therefore a man shall leave his father and his mother and hold fast to his wife, and they shall become one flesh.
- 25 And the man and his wife were both naked and were not ashamed.

I Samuel 20

We are designed for relationship...

- 16 And Jonathan made a covenant with the house of David, saying,
“May the LORD take vengeance on David’s enemies.”
- 17 And Jonathan made David swear again by his love for him, for he loved him as he loved his own soul.

Ruth 1:15-18

We are designed for relationship...

We are designed for relationship...

15 And she (*Naomi*) said,

“See, your sister-in-law has gone back to her people and to her gods; return after your sister-in-law.”

16 But Ruth said,

“Do not urge me to leave you or to return from following you.

For where you go I will go,
and where you lodge I will lodge.
Your people shall be my people,
and your God my God.

We are designed for relationship...

- 17 Where you die I will die,
 and there will I be buried.
 May the LORD do so to me and more also if
 anything but death parts me from you.”
- 18 And when Naomi saw that she was determined to
 go with her, she said no more.



...they can be the source of all sorts of pain!

Genesis 3-4

...they can be the source of all sorts of pain!

- 1 Now the serpent was more crafty than any other beast of the field that the LORD God had made. He said to the woman,
“Did God actually say, ‘You shall not eat of any tree in the garden?’”
- 2 And the woman said to the serpent,
“We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden,
- 3 but God said, “You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree that is in the midst of the garden, neither shall you touch it, lest you die.””

- 4 But the serpent said to the woman,
“You will not surely die.
- 5 For God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.”
- 6 So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate, and she also gave some to her husband who was with her, and he ate.

Genesis 3-4

...they can be the source of all sorts of pain!

7 Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked. And they sewed fig leaves together and made themselves loincloths.

.....

.....

.....

7 Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked. And they sewed fig leaves together and made themselves loincloths.

.....

.....

.....

21 And the LORD God made for Adam and for his wife garments of skins and clothed them.

Genesis 3-4

...they can be the source of all sorts of pain!

- 3 In the course of time Cain brought to the LORD an offering of the fruit of the ground,
- 4 and Abel also brought of the firstborn of his flock and of their fat portions.
And the LORD had regard for Abel and his offering,
- 5 but for Cain and his offering he had no regard.
So Cain was very angry, and his face fell.
- 6 The LORD said to Cain,
“Why are you angry,
and why has your face fallen?”

7 If you do well, will you not be accepted? And if you do not do well, sin is crouching at the door. Its desire is for you, but you must rule over it.”

8 Cain spoke to Abel his brother. And when they were in the field, Cain rose up against his brother Abel and killed him.

9 Then the LORD said to Cain,
“Where is Abel your brother?”

He said,

“I don’t know; am I my brother’s keeper?”



**Love is a Feeling to
Be Learned**

by Walter Trobisch

Love is a Feeling to Be Learned...

It is anxiety and contentment.

It is deep yearning and hostility.

It is pleasure and pain.

There is not one without the other.

Happiness is only a part of love—

this is what has to be learned.

Suffering also belongs to love.

This is the mystery of love,

its beauty and its burden.

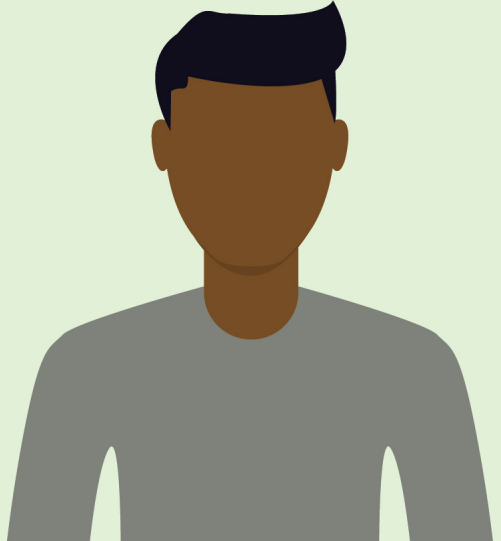
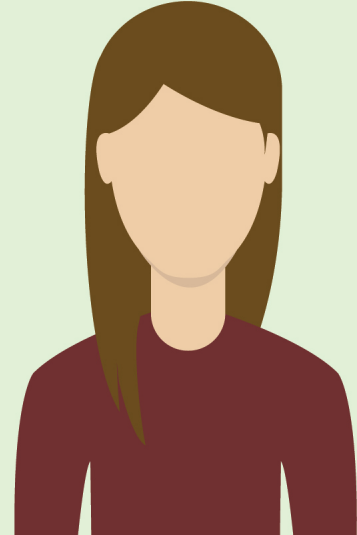
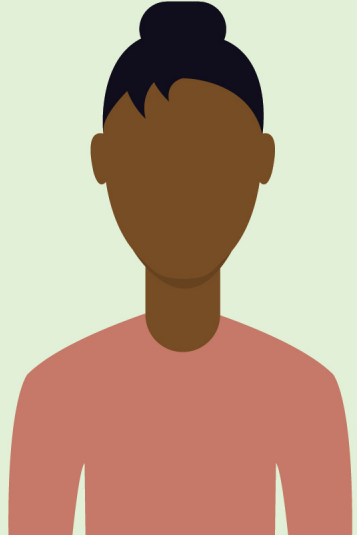
Love is a feeling to be learned.

How do you do that?

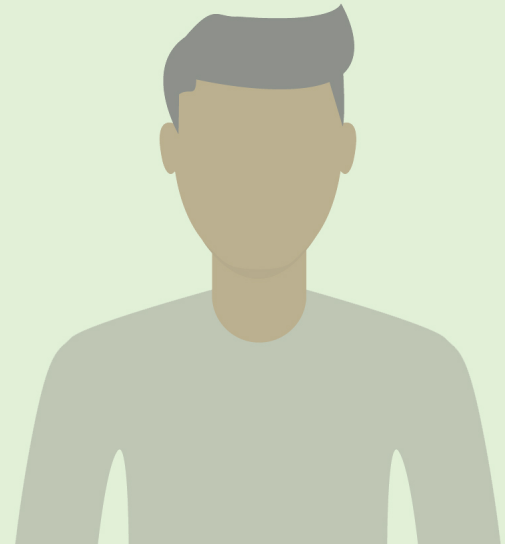
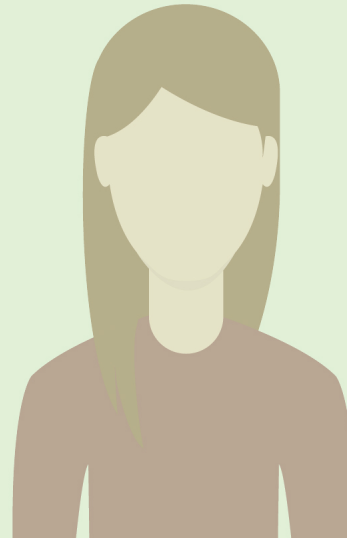
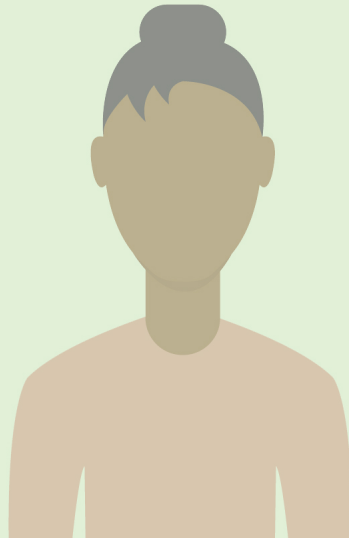
How do you do that?

How do you do that?

How do you do that?



Ephesians 5:1-2, 8-10, 15-20



Ephesians 5:1-2, 8-10, 15-20

- 1 Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children.
- 2 And walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave Himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.

.....



Ephesians 5:1-2, 8-10, 15-20

- 1 Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children.
- 2 And walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave Himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.

.....

- 8 Walk as children of light
- 9 (for the fruit of light is found in all that is good and right and true),
- 10 and try to discern what is pleasing to the Lord.



- 15 Look carefully then how you walk,
not as unwise but as wise,
- 16 making the best use of the time,
because the days are evil.
- 17 Therefore do not be foolish,
but understand what the will of the Lord is.
- 18 And do not get drunk with wine,
for that is debauchery, but be filled with the Spirit,
- 19 addressing one another in psalms and hymns and
spiritual songs, singing and making melody to the
Lord with your hearts,
- 20 giving thanks always for everything to God the Father
in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ,

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- 20 giving thanks always for everything to God the Father
in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ,

21 submitting to one another
out of reverence for Christ.

.....

21 submitting to one another
out of reverence for Christ.

.....

21 submitting to one another
out of reverence for Christ.

.....



21 submitting to one another
out of reverence for Christ.

.....

...to *yield*...

21 submitting to one another
out of reverence for Christ.

.....

...to stop resisting...

21 submitting to one another
out of reverence for Christ.

.....

...to *yield*...

...to *offer*...

21 submitting to one another
out of reverence for Christ.


.....

...to yield...

...to reveal our agenda...

21 submitting to one another
out of reverence for Christ.

.....



21 submitting to one another
out of reverence for Christ.

.....

22-33 *Husbands and wives*

.....

21 submitting to one another
out of reverence for Christ.

.....

22-33 *Husbands and wives*

.....

6:1-4 *Parents and children*

.....

21 submitting to one another
out of reverence for Christ.

.....

22-33 *Husbands and wives*

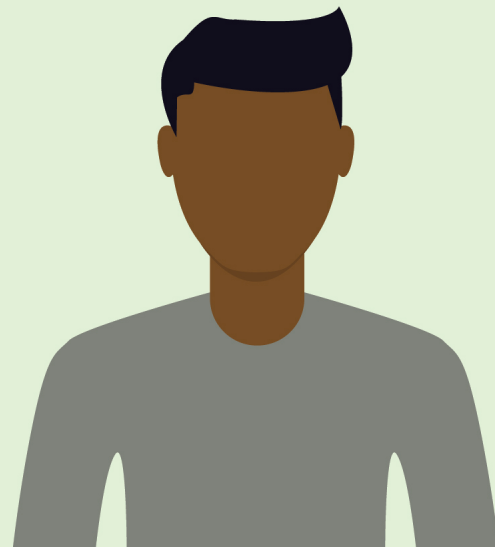
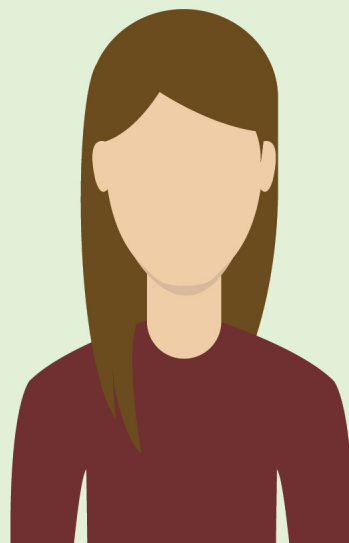
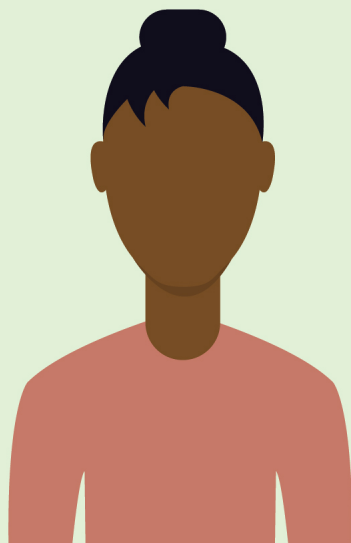
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6:1-4 *Parents and children*

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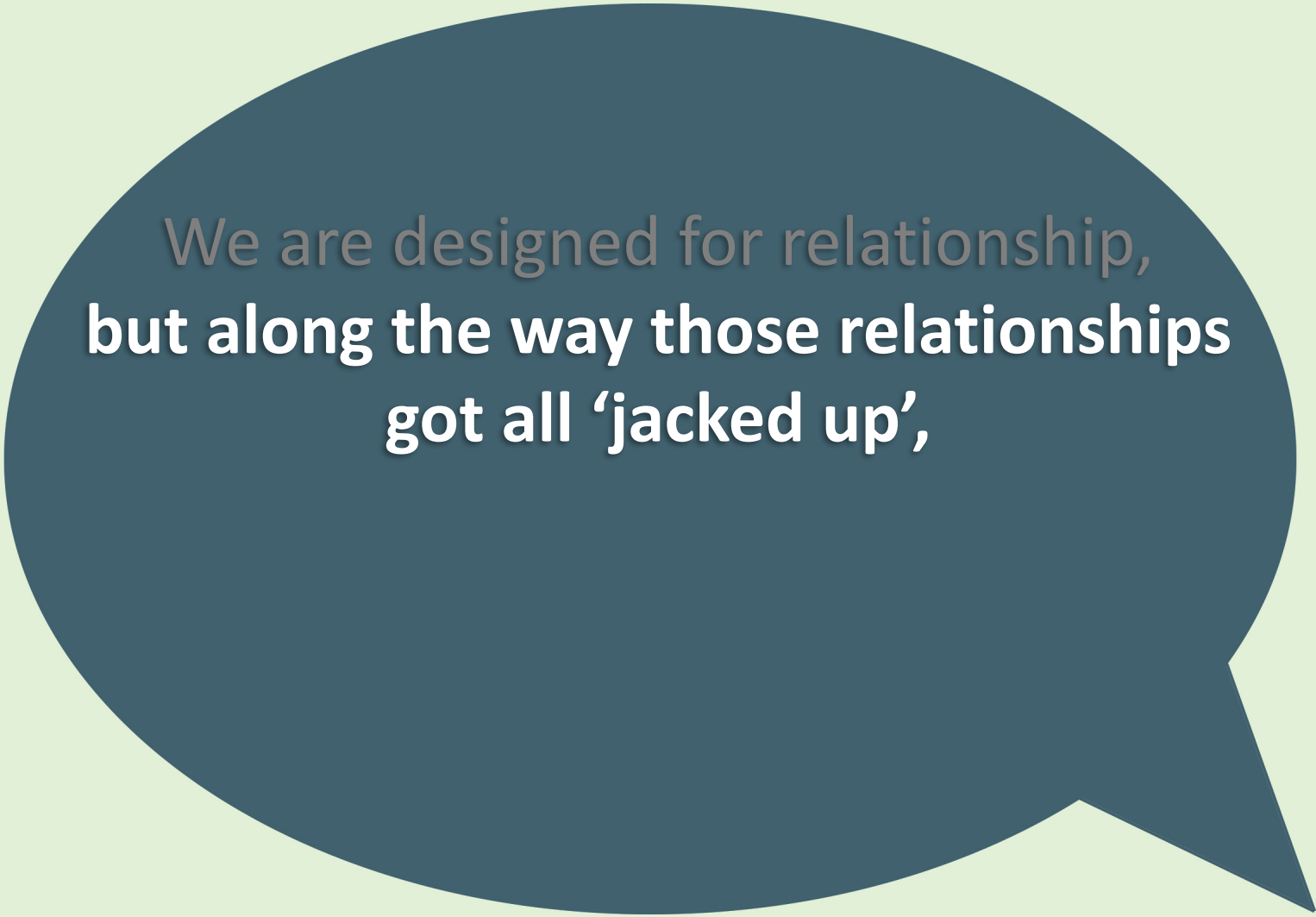
6:5-9 *Employers and employees*

#The Struggle is Real
#RELATIONSHIPS

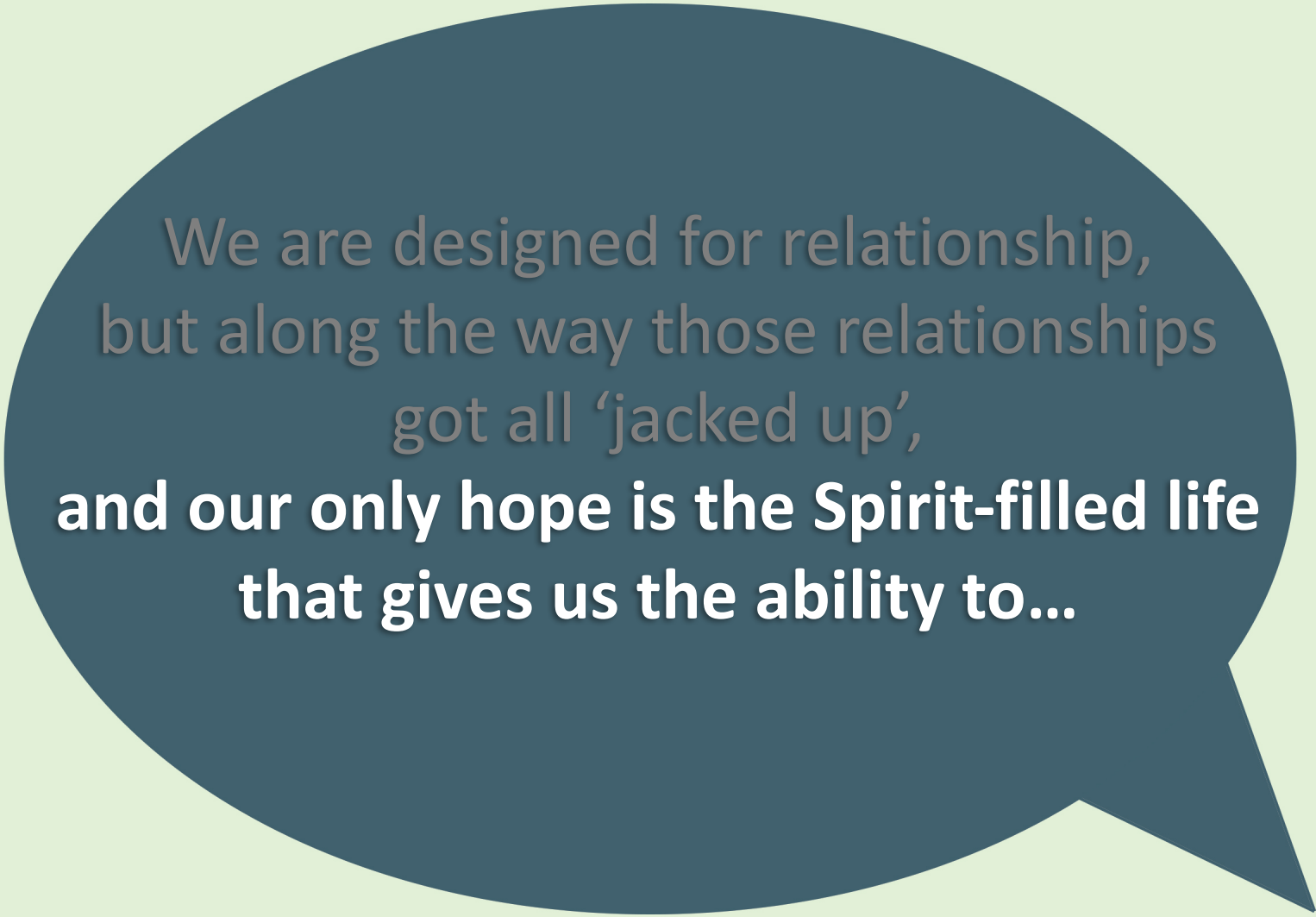




We are designed for relationship,



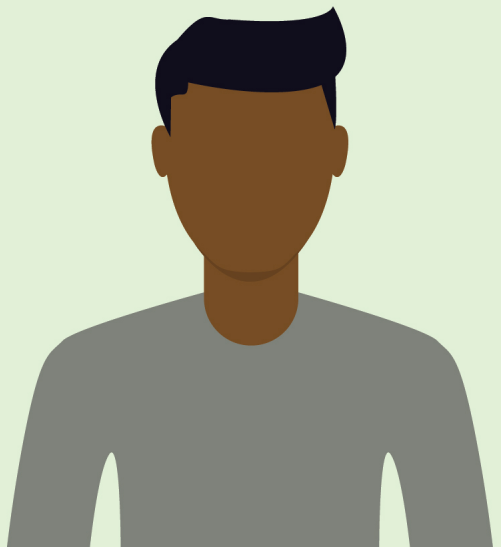
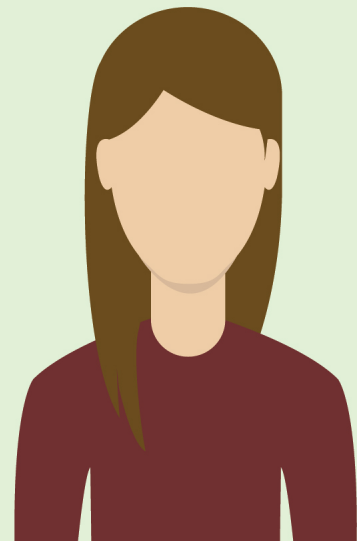
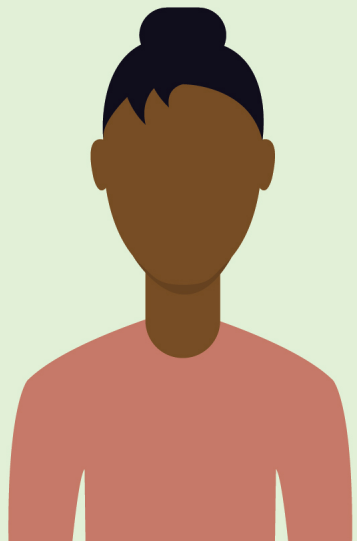
We are designed for relationship,
**but along the way those relationships
got all 'jacked up',**



We are designed for relationship,
but along the way those relationships
got all 'jacked up',
**and our only hope is the Spirit-filled life
that gives us the ability to...**

We are designed for relationship,
but along the way those relationships
got all 'jacked up',
and our only hope is the **Spirit-filled life**
that gives us the ability to...

'submit to one another'.



I'll be back!

I'll be back!

I'll be back!

I'll be back!

