

*Visionary Society Presents*

Quest Path for

# **RELATIONSHIP**



What is relationship?

- ▶ Is it possible to repair broken relationships such as global conflict, poverty, injustice, depression, loneliness?
- ▶ Can true love ever come to an end?
- ▶ Is isolation inevitable? Is true friendship possible?

*Grasping the mystery of relationship is a vocation of any sensitive human being, a journey we must take together.*

# PRACTICE

Remember a lost or broken relationship. What of importance did you share? Why did the relationship come to an end? Did they betray you? Have you betrayed them? Were you in conflict with them? Did you wish them harm? Did you cause harm? Was your heart broken? Did you break their heart?

What part of the relationship was not transient? What part of it is still alive, or how could it be brought back to life?

# TOPIC

*Explore the Topic and vote on each Perspective*

**Relationship is not possible where there is greed, ambition and hope.**

Love comes only when the mind is quiet...If you have no love, you cannot resolve any social problem. You can go into politics, exhibit faith, try to reform the poor, write books or poems, but you are a dead human being. (J. Krishnamurti)

**Look for the good in everyone**

"At every moment of our lives we should be trying to find out, not in what we differ from other people, but in what we agree with them." (John Ruskin)

**See people as a whole and as an end.**

"You is more than It knows...The You encounters me by grace – it cannot be found by seeking. But that I speak the basic word to it is a deed of my whole being, it is my essential deed. The You encounters me. I enter into a direct relationship to it....All actual life is encounter. Here is the cradle of actual life." (Martin Buber)

# VISION

Friendship is bringing together two souls for the elaboration of the good. True friends recognize the truth of each other – not just who they are at present, but what is best in them and what they may achieve. They work together to establish their most beautiful vision, first in ideas, then in actual life.

Visionary relationships are an alternative to mortal friendships. They are heart connections to what is inside, to what we care about and aspire to. They are a response to the mystery of loss and mortality, offered to anyone willing and able.

Relationship means that the brokenness of the world can come to an end, at least temporarily. Entering this mystery is one of the most important things we can do, a journey we must take together.

Perhaps we are not ready. It is too grand for us as we are now. Let's begin anyway.

# INVITATION

Relationship depends on the development of a noble character. Relationship is not possible where there is self-seeking. Self-seeking includes fear, greed, envy, jealousy, ambition, despair and hope.

Never give up on anyone.

Do not take advantage of anyone.

Help those in need (who are willing to engage in thought).

Decide on a joint action.

Do not express contempt for or humiliate anyone. Never damage another person, especially internally.

Look into the heart of others. Find out how you are the same.

Look for the good in those you oppose.

Find one or two true, profound, eternal elements in every person you meet.

Faithfulness. People have to protect their private relationships, especially romantic and family relationships.

Engage in some form of shared action.

Join for communion and celebration.

Bind your fate to anyone on a path to good.

# FRIENDSHAPE

*The relationship at the heart of visionary society*

Friendshape is for any significant relationship (even if you are not in regular communication). It is for those you want to keep alive in your heart. Offer friendshape to anyone you would like to...

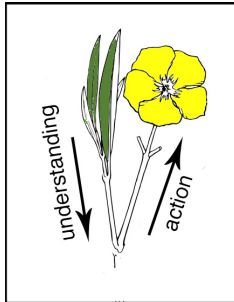
- Create your profile.
- Add your friends.
- Enter basic background on each relationship.
- Send an initial greeting.
- Add something you'd like to see in the world.
- Celebration of the good.
- Decide on a joint action.



# What is Visionary Society?

*Visionary Society is a way to turn your ideas about how to make the world better into action.*

[www.visionarysociety.org](http://www.visionarysociety.org)



*“Without any formal scheme or written laws, we have agreed to regard ourselves as one family.” (Oneida community)*