

Relationships Take Work  
“*The Work of Love*”  
John 15

*“If we are willing to do the work, relationships **can** work.”* – Pastor Billy R. Johnson

As we continue the series on *Relationships Take Work*, according to the initial notations, “trust” is the next topic. However, there is no place in the Bible where we are told to put our *trust* in man. Instead, the Word tells us to *love*.

**It Takes Work to Love**

- We were created to love
- We were created by love
- We were created to be loved

Every intent has the foundation of the love of God. “*You are at your best when you know you are loved.*” -Pastor Billy R. Johnson. Unconditional love is required in all relationships.

**The Work of Love**

- Love is a choice we make, not a feeling we have. (Colossians 3:12)
- Love is a command you keep. (John 15:12, 17)
- Love is the proof that we show. (John 13:35)
- Love is the place you stay. (John 15:9)
- Love is the cost you pay. (John 15:13)
- Love is the fruit that you bear. (John 15:16)
- Love is the commitment that you make.

*“If the seed is there, the fruit will bear.” – Pastor Billy R. Johnson.*

There are people all over the world who need lifting by way of love, and God through His Word has given us the tool to do it.

The meaning of ***establish***:

- *To turn resolutely in a certain direction.*
- *To cause someone to become more firm and unchanging in their attitude or belief.*
- *To set up something so it is immovable.*
- *Caused to be fixed.*
- *To reinforce.*

### WHAT MUST BE ESTABLISHED?

YOU – *Romans 1:11, Romans 16:25*

*Be firm in what God told you, and who God is.*

YOUR FAITH – *1 Thessalonians 3:2*

*God wants your faith to be established in order to have a firm belief in who God is.*

YOUR HEART – *1 Thessalonians 3:13*

*Out of the heart flow the issues of life. We need a believing heart and a trusting heart.*

### WHAT DOES GOD USE TO ESTABLISH YOU?

*Truth – 2 Peter 1:12*

*“God uses **truth** as the tool to begin to establish you, so that you may learn, embrace and live by truth.” – Pastor Billy R. Johnson*

God does not want your life built upon a lie, but rather built upon truth.

## WHO IS THE ONE THAT ESTABLISHES?

### *God Himself.*

*“God wants to establish you so that you can walk by faith, work by faith and wait in faith.”*  
– Billy R. Johnson

In closing, His ways are not our ways, His thoughts not our thoughts. Although we are being tested with challenges, our faith must not fail. (Luke 22:31)

*“In the midst of shaking times, cause us to be established people.” – Pastor Billy R. Johnson.*