

## Episode 006

# Caring for Leaders Across Distances

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## An Interview with Ps. Simon Eng

### 1. To care for people across big distances, from your experience, what are some foundational things that help set up these relationships?

- Romans 1:8-13
- Building friendship that will lead to deeper things. Sometimes we can stop at superficial matters. Aim to build a long-term relationship from our hearts.
- Sincerely build a relationship because we care. Have the perspective of relating to someone we would long to talk to more often.
- Consider how we can pastorally care for them long-term. In a sincere and authentic way.
- Care for them holistically, including their personal and family situation. Beyond their ministry. Asking how is their finance, their health?

### 2. Besides the friendship that you poured in the effort to build, what else can we do to help foster the relationship?

- Friendship, relationship and being holistic is foundational so they know our heart.
- Make our time with them beneficial. As leaders want to see fruit and success in their ministry. Try to make our time meaningful and helpful to them.
- Bring forth helpful content. Rom 1:11, 1 Thess 3. Paul's method was to benefit his churches by visiting and sending other leaders. Paul sought to encourage, impart and strengthen them.
- We should think like a father, a leader and shepherd.
- Desire our leaders to develop and reach their potential in God.
- Some practical tips:
  - Problem-solving content
  - Resourcing
  - Imparting spiritual gifts
  - Being helpful



**3. I think one of the dangers that occur in distant relationships, and it certainly tends to occur for me, is that of “out of sight, out of mind”. How can we maintain mindfulness?**

- Philippians 1:7
- Keeping them in our hearts and thoughts regularly. How they are in all areas.
- Pray for them regularly.
- Taking opportunities to send others who help to connect.
- Putting dates, appointments in our schedules to ensure we keep in touch. Be intentional.

**4. Thank God for technology that allows us to better keep in touch today, but how important is it to meet face to face?**

- The best connection is to have face to face, heart to heart in such times. Especially stomach to stomach connection, having meals with them. For that opens hearts.
- Paul longed to visit the churches.
- When in-person it is easier to listen to the heart.

**5. Thank God for technology that allows us to better keep in touch today, but how important is it to meet face to face?**

- Jesus chose the 12 and made disciples. He chose them to be with Him and stay with Him.
- The desire to make disciples and develop covenantal relationships.
- It helps advance God's people.
- The people we work with become our friends.



## Discussion Questions

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These questions could be done personally or as part of a group discussion.

1. How has this interview inspired you in terms of building relationships with others that you are responsible for?
2. How have you been inspired to bring benefit to those you relate to?

## Actionable Steps

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Following questions are to prompt us on suitable actions. Importantly, come up with steps you will take to make progress. Give them datelines and priority.

1. What specific actionable steps can you take to deepen the relationship with those you have responsibility over?
2. What can you do to improve your mindfulness to maintain and develop relationships over a distance?





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