

CONNECTING WITH GOD

Introduction

“Even though we are many individuals, Christ makes us one body and individuals who are connected to each other.”

Rom. 12:5 (GW)

4 METAPHORS

WHAT IT MEANS TO BE SPIRITUALLY CONNECTED

1. IT’S LIKE BEING _____

²¹ In him the whole building is joined together and rises to become a holy temple in the Lord. ²² And in him you too are being built together to become a dwelling in which God lives by his Spirit. Ephesians 2:21-22 (NIV)

IN BUILDINGS, a disconnected frame _____

2. IT’S LIKE BEING _____

“...In Christ's Body we're all connected to each other. When you lie to others, you end up lying to yourself.” Eph. 4:25 (Mes)

“Just as there are many parts to our bodies, so it is with Christ's Body. We are all parts of it, and it takes every one of us to make it complete, for we each have different work to do. So we belong to each other, and each of us needs all the others.” Rom. 12:4-5 (LB)

“They are not connected to Christ, the head of the Body. But we are joined together in his body by his strong sinews, and we grow only as we get our nourishment and strength from God.” Col. 2:19 (NLT)

IN A BODY, a disconnected part _____

3. IT’S LIKE BEING _____

Jesus: “Live in me, and I will live in you. A branch cannot produce any fruit by itself. It has to stay attached to the vine. In the same way, you cannot produce fruit unless you live in me.” John 15:4 (GW)

“God's Spirit joins himself to our spirits to declare that we are God's children.” Rom. 8:16 (TEV)

ON PLANTS, a disconnected branch _____

4. IT’S LIKE BEING _____

“I want you to know how people who are members of God's family must live. God's family is the church...” 1 Tim. 3:15 (GW)

“You will all be joined together, and you will give glory to God the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. Christ accepted you, so you should accept each other, which will bring glory to God.” Rom. 15:6-7 (NCV)

IN A FAMILY, a disconnected member _____

“I beg you, brothers and sisters... to be completely joined together by having the same kind of thinking and the same PURPOSE.” 1 Cor. 1:10 (NCV)

5 PURPOSE DRIVEN CONNECTIONS

Knowing, Growing, Relating, Serving, Sharing