

Connected In Christ

Number seven in a nine-part series on what we believe

November 1, 2009

The church is the community of Christians, the context in which we live out our connection.

But how are we connected?

1. We are connected in Christ.

It is a _____ connection.

Col. 1:18; Eph. 4:15,16; John 17:20-23.

2. We are connected functionally.

It is a _____ connection.

1 Cor. 12:27; Rom. 12:4,5; Eccl. 4:9,10.

3. We are connected relationally.

It is a _____ connection.

Gal. 6:10; Eph. 2:19; 1 Tim. 5:1,2.

4. We are connected in purpose.

It is a _____ connection.

Matt. 28:19; John 20:21.

5. We are connected eternally.

It is a _____ connection.

1 Thes. 4:16-17; Rev. 21:3,4.

Questions for Personal Reflection And Group Discussion

1. Describe your view of friendship. Finish this sentence: "A friend is someone who..."

2. Consider this definition, "A friend helps you keep your commitments." Can you relate? Is the church a place that fosters this kind of relationship?

3. What did the band of disciples have in common with one of our Growth Groups? Describe Jesus as a small group leader. Describe the relationships his followers enjoyed. How were they connected?

4. Eph. 4:15,16 describe Christians as united in Christ's body. What are some of the practical ways that this invisible connection is made visible?

5. Rom 12:4,5 sounds like a summary of 1 Cor. 12. What do you think about the concept that we are not connected, but actually belong to one another?

6. How is the church like a family? How should we be like a family?

7. What does the Bible tell us that Jesus wants the church to do?

8. Is the thought that we will be together forever comforting, or troublesome? How can we prepare for an eternity of fellowship?

9. How are you doing on your three assignments? How might God want to use you to help others connect here at Dayspring?

Your Assignment:

Reaching

List names of old friends:

Connecting

List names of new friends:

Growing

List the name of a new group:

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But how are we connected?

1. We are connected in Christ.

It is a mystical connection.

Col. 1:18; Eph. 4:15,16; John 17:20-23.

2. We are connected functionally.

It is a practical connection.

1 Cor. 12:27; Rom. 12:4,5; Eccl. 4:9,10.

3. We are connected relationally.

It is a family connection.

Gal. 6:10; Eph. 2:19; 1 Tim. 5:1,2.

4. We are connected in purpose.

It is a strategic connection.

Matt. 28:19; John 20:21.

5. We are connected eternally.

It is a permanent connection.

1 Thes. 4:16-17; Rev. 21:3,4.

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Reaching

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