

Get Connected, Stay Connected

Hebrews 10:22-25 NIV

22. Let us draw near to God with a sincere heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled to cleanse us from a guilty conscience and having our bodies washed with pure water. 23. Let us hold unswervingly to the hope we profess, for he who promised is faithful. 24. And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds. 25. Let us not give up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but let us encourage one another--and all the more as you see the Day approaching.

- ❖ Let us draw near to God
 - ❖ Let us hold on tight to faith
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- ❖ Let us spur on one another
 - ❖ Let us not give up meeting
 - ❖ Let us encourage each other

What is he talking About?

Connecting to One Another
Hebrews 10:22-25

Three things must happen for this to work God's way.

1. Worship with God's Family
2. Make new Friends
3. Practice Fellowship

1. Worship with God's Family

“worship together...meet together... eat together...”



**Care, share, and bear
one another's burdens, idiosyncrasies, faults.**

Revelation 5:11

Then I looked and heard the voice of many angels, numbering thousands upon thousands, and ten thousand times ten thousand. They encircled the throne and the living creatures and the elders.

Revelation 7:9-12

9. After this I looked and there before me was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, tribe, people and language, standing before the throne and in front of the Lamb. They were wearing white robes and were holding palm branches in their hands. 10. And they cried out in a loud voice: "Salvation belongs to our God, who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb." 11. All the angels were standing around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures. They fell down on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, 12. saying: "Amen! Praise and glory and wisdom and thanks and honor and power and strength be to our God for ever and ever. Amen!"

THE GROWTH OF THE CHURCH

Acts 1:13 / Acts 1:15 / Acts 2:41 / Acts 4:4

12 ----- 120 ----- 3,000 ----- 5,000

Acts 2:42-47

42. They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer.

43. Everyone was filled with awe, and many wonders and miraculous signs were done by the apostles.

44. All the believers were together and had everything in common. 45. Selling their possessions and goods, they gave to anyone as he had need.

46. Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts.

They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts, 47. praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people.

And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved.

Ecclesiastes 4:7-12

7. Again I saw something meaningless under the sun:

8. There was a man all alone; he had neither son nor brother. ...This too is meaningless-- a miserable business! 9. Two are better than one, because they have a good return for their work: 10. If one falls down, his friend can help him up. But pity the man who falls and has no one to help him up! 11. Also, if two lie down together, they will keep warm. But how can one keep warm alone? 12. Though one may be overpowered, two can defend themselves. A cord of three strands is not quickly broken.

2. Make a New Friend(s)

1. Find (look for someone)
2. Food (eat something)
3. Fun (do something)
4. Fellowship (say something)
5. Friendship (be something)

Pity the man who has none!



Good friends are not always alike.
Most friends are a bit goofy together.

Proverbs 17:17 A friend loves at all times, and a brother is born for adversity.

Proverbs 18:24 A man *that hath* friends must show himself friendly

Proverbs 27:6 Faithful *are* the wounds of a friend;

Proverbs 27:17 Iron sharpens iron; so a man sharpens the countenance of his friend.

Proverbs 27:6 Faithful *are* the wounds of a friend;

3. Practice Fellowship

One Another...Passages

“By this shall all men know that you are my disciples when you love one another as I have loved you.” – John 13:35

Attitudes	Actions	Negatives
Accept ... (Romans 15:5-7) Be kind ... (Eph 4:32) Lay down your life (1 Jn 3:16) Put up with ... (Eph 4:2) Honor ... (Romans 12:10) Love ... (John 13:34) Serve ... (Gal 5:13) Submit to ... (Eph 5:21) Wash feet ... (John 13:14) Bear burdens ... (Gal 6:2)	Greet ... (Romans 16:16) Admonish ... (Romans 15:14) Confess faults ... (James 5:16) Comfort ... (1 Thess 4:18) Edify (1 Thess 4:18) Exhort ... (Heb 3:13) Forgive ... (Eph 4:32) Sing to ... (Eph 5:19) Pray for ... (James 5:16) Spur on ... (Heb 10:24)	Judge not ... (Romans 14:13) Envy not ... (Gal 5:15) Provoke not ... (Gal 5:15) Bite not ... (Gal 5:15) Devour not ... (Gal 5:15) Lie Not ... (Colossians 3:9) Defraud Not... (1 Thess. 4:6) Show no Partiality To ... (1 Tim 5:21) Forsake not Gathering ... (Heb 10:25) Put No Stumblingblock ... (Rom. 14:13)

Get Into a Small Group.

1. An Adult Sunday School Class
2. A Men's or Women's Bible Study.
3. Start your own small group.
4. Find a common denominator (interest group)
5. Meet regularly for caring, sharing, and praying.
6. Do it faithfully for six months to one year.

Choose a Prayer Partner

1. Someone of the same gender (male, female)
2. Someone who will be faithful, punctual.
3. Someone you like to be with.
4. Someone with a kindred spirit.
5. Someone who will be honest.
6. Someone whose wisdom you trust.
7. Someone you can trust with secrets.

Find and Be a Prayer Partner

1. Make it once-a-week (once a month).
2. Meet for ½ hour minimum.
3. Follow an agenda. (see suggestions)
4. Use accountability questions.
5. Talk about sin, temptations, failures, struggles
6. Share thoughts & feelings not just facts.
7. Ask what God has been saying in devotions.

Conclusion

Are You Connected?

“Two are better than one, because they have a good return for their work: If one falls down, his friend can help him up. But pity the man who falls and has no one to help him up!” – Ecclesiastes 4:9-10

Are You Connected?

- To the Word?
- To One Another?

Communion Alone *is not communion*

“Let us break bread together”

1 John 1:3 That which we have seen and heard declare we unto you, that you also may have fellowship with us: and **truly our fellowship is with the Father, and with his Son Jesus Christ.**

1 John 1:6 If we say that we have fellowship with him, and walk in darkness, we lie, and do not the truth:

1 John 1:7 But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, **we have fellowship one with another**, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanses us from all sin.

James 1:22

22. Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says. 23. Anyone who listens to the word but does not do what it says is like a man who looks at his face in a mirror 24. and, after looking at himself, goes away and immediately forgets what he looks like. 25. But the man who looks intently into the perfect law that gives freedom, and continues to do this, not forgetting what he has heard, but doing it--he will be blessed in what he does.