

“Raising the Bar – Connect”

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“Grow” – Ephesians 4:15

“Share” – Acts 1:6-8

“Connect”

Opening Premise - More Tools, Less Connection

True connecting is a very real part of _____.

- John 13:34-35
- John 17:20-23

Connecting involves:

- _____ our ultimate family. (Mark 3:31-34)
- “Sharing the happiness of those who are happy and the sadness of those who are sad.” (Romans 12:15)
- the _____ of truly knowing and being known by someone.

CONNECTING WITH ONE ANOTHER IS NOT ALWAYS EASY, BUT...

“Connecting” does not necessarily mean that we always agree with one another, but...

- it does mean that because we are connected in Christ, we treat one another with _____.

“Connecting” does not mean that we will automatically like one another, but...

- it does mean that we will be _____ to one another.

“Connecting” does not mean that we simply settle for what we are, but...

- it does mean that we will deal with the _____ in our lives that _____ connection.

. . . IT CAN BE VERY POWERFUL.

- We can have true “ _____ ” through Christ.
- We can be part of a world-wide _____ known as the Body of Christ.
- We can help one another _____. (Hebrews 10:24-25, Proverbs 27:17)

DO YOU HAVE ANYONE WHO CARES ENOUGH TO HELP YOU GROW?

Where do we go from here?

Genesis 3:6-24

- Disconnected from _____
- Disconnected from _____
- Disconnected within the _____
- Disconnected from nature & disconnected from natural processes
- Disconnected from the life _____

There has never been anyone more disconnected than Jesus was on the cross yet all _____ has to begin with Him.

Connect with the “Re-connector”. Jesus is the great re-connector and He wants us to live “connected lives”.

Talk It Over . . . with your friends, family, or Growth Group

Talking through the ideas presented in Sunday's message helps us apply God's word to our individual lives. These questions and thoughts are designed to help you put His words into action in your life this week.

What is your main "take-away" from this week? How do you plan to live that out?

How would you define "true" connection?

Do you have people that you feel strongly connected to? How were those connections established?

Have you found that there is a difference between Christian connections as opposed to those we might have with non-Christians? If so, what is the difference? If not, why not?

There is an expression that says, "The Christian army is the only army that shoots its wounded." What do think the writer was trying to say? Do you agree or disagree?

What are some of the ways Jesus has re-connected you to God, to other people, to yourself, etc.?

What do you think was happening on the cross when Jesus said, "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?" How did that have an impact on our ability to connect?

Read over the various scriptures presented in this week's sermon and think about what God might be teaching you. (Note: these might be different than what was presented in the sermon.)

Redeemer Options for Connecting:

*Sunday School Classes
Growth Groups
Bible Studies*

*Other Christian groups
Caring friends
Whatever works*

