

YOU'VE GOT TO BE CONNECTED!

Built Strong – Part 4

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WHY ARE CONNECTIONS SO IMPORTANT?

"First they gave themselves to the Lord; and then, by God's will they gave themselves to us as well." 2 Corinthians 8:5 (TEV)

"Even though we are many individuals, Christ makes us one body and individuals who are connected to each other." Romans 12:5 (GW)

BEING CONNECTED AS A CHURCH MEMBER

The difference between "attender" vs "member"

1. "Don't you realize that all of you together are the temple of God and that the Spirit of God lives in you?" 1 Corinthians 3:16 (NLT)

"We who believe are carefully joined together, becoming a holy temple for the Lord." Ephesians 2:21

"And in Christ, you are being built together to become a dwelling place in which God lives by his Spirit!" Ephesians 2:22 (NIV)

"... the church of the living God is the pillar and the foundation of the truth." 1 Timothy 3:15 (NIV)

THE BENEFIT:

2. "God has put everything under the authority of Christ, and God gave him this authority for the benefit of his church, which is the Body of Christ." Ephesians 1:22-23 (NLT)

"In Christ's Body we're all connected to each other . . ." Ephesians 4:25b (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."

Romans 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."

Colossians 2:19 (NLT)

THE BENEFIT:

3. Jesus said, "I am the Vine and you are the branches! If you stay connected to me and I am connected to you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing." John 15:5 (NIV)

"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)

THE BENEFIT:

4. "God's Spirit joins himself to our spirits to declare that we are God's children." Romans 8:16 (TEV)
- "I want you to know how people who are members of God's family must live. God's family is the church . . ." 1 Timothy 3:15 (GW)
- "Love your brothers and sisters in God's family!" 1 Peter 2:17 (NCV)

The BENEFIT: