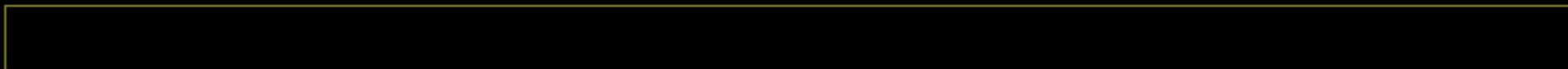


OTTERBEIN: A CHURCH THAT CARES



We've always been about connecting people to God

- **Pastors faithfully preaching the Gospel**
- **Sunday School Teachers**
- **Bible Studies/Prayer Groups/Small Groups**
- **A legacy of faithful members**
- **VBS**
- **Outreach**

CONNECTING

**Since 1829, Otterbein has been
introducing people to Jesus.**

CONNECTING

**Connecting people to God is God's
heart!**

CONNECTING

1) Jesus Calling His Disciples

CONNECTING

¹⁸ Now as Jesus was walking by the Sea of Galilee, He saw two brothers, Simon, who was called Peter, and his brother Andrew, casting a net into the sea; for they were fishermen. ¹⁹ And He said to them, “**Follow Me**, and I will make you fishers of people.”

Matthew 4:18-19 (NASB)

Jesus didn't **call them into a **religion**.
He **invited** them into a **relationship**!**

CONNECTING

“Follow Me.”

CONNECTING

Apprenticing Christ

Think of an apprentice learning from a master craftsman. **They don't just watch**—they spend **every day** with the master, **learning by doing** until they can do what the master does.

**God wants to connect with His people
because we all have been **created for a
purpose.****

CONNECTING

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Matthew 4:18-19 (NASB)

2) The Woman at the Well

CONNECTING

A woman of Samaria came to draw water. Jesus said to her, “Give Me a drink.”

John 4:7 (NASB)

Jesus replied to her, “If you knew the gift of God, and who it is who is saying to you, ‘Give Me a drink,’ **you would have asked Him, and He would have given you living water.**”

John 4:10 (NASB)

²⁵ The woman said to Him, “I know that Messiah is coming (He who is called Christ); when that One comes, He will declare all things to us.” ²⁶
Jesus said to her, “**I am He, the One speaking to you.**”

John 4:25-26 (NASB)

**Jesus sees past her brokenness and
connects her to God!**

CONNECTING

**The Lord is not slow in keeping His
promise, as some understand slowness.
Instead He is patient with you, **not**
wanting anyone to perish, but
everyone to come to **repentance**.**

2 Peter 3:9 (NIV)

Now from that city **many of the Samaritans believed in Him** because of the **word of the woman** who testified, “He told me all the things that I have done.”

John 4:39 (NASB)

3) The Lost Sheep

CONNECTING

¹Now all the **tax collectors** and **sinners** were coming near Jesus to listen to Him. ²And both the Pharisees and the scribes began to complain, saying, “This Man **receives** sinners and **eats with them.**”

Luke 15:1-2 (NASB)

⁴ **“What man among you, if he has a hundred sheep and has lost one of them, does not leave the other ninety-nine in the open pasture and go after the one that is lost, until he finds it?** ⁵
And when he has found it, he puts it on his shoulders, rejoicing.

⁶ And when he comes home, he calls together his friends and his neighbors, saying to them, ‘**Rejoice with me, because I have found my sheep that was lost!**’ ⁷ I tell you that in the same way, there will be **more joy** in heaven over **one sinner** who repents than over ninety-nine righteous people who have no need of repentance.

Luke 15:4-7 (NASB)

God **pursues, seeks,** and **connects** the
lost to Himself.

CONNECTING

**Jesus (The Good Shepherd) leaves the
99 because connecting 1 sinner to God
matters.**

CONNECTING

**Churches can accidentally experience
missional drift because we focus
primarily on the ABCs of church
instead of the DEFs.**

**Buildings matter. Programs matter.
Budgets matter...but only because
they help people know Jesus in a very
real and relevant way.**

Imagine a church that is **so focussed**
on imitating Jesus that every ministry
of the church asks itself, “**How does
this connect someone to God?**”

But, “Does this help people take **1
more step closer to God?”**

CONNECTING

Imagine

- **Every Sunday, someone meets Christ**

CONNECTING

Imagine

- **Every Sunday, someone meets Christ**
- **Every child learns to pray bold prayers**

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- **Every Sunday, someone meets Christ**
- **Every child learns to pray bold prayers**
- **Every student owns their faith**

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- **Every Sunday, someone meets Christ**
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- **Every stage of life disciples the pervious one**
- **Every guest feels seen and loved**
- **Every small group is a powerhouse for life-change**

But **most importantly**, every member
sees **themselves** as someone whose
primary job it is to **connect** the
lost with God.

CONNECTING

**That is the church that I believe God
is calling us to be!**

CONNECTING

3 Questions

1) Are you connected to God?

CONNECTING

3 Questions

1) Are you connected to God?

2) Are you growing closer to Him?

CONNECTING

3 Questions

- 1) Are you connected to God?**
- 2) Are you growing closer to Him?**
- 3) Who is your 1 more to help get connected?**

**Every ministry, every dollar, every
volunteer, program, and member has
one ultimate purpose... helping people
take that next step of obedience
towards Christ.**

CONNECTING

Over the next five weeks we are going to be talking about who **WE are. Not because we are trying to invent something new, but because **WE** believe God is calling us to become even more faithful to who He has called this church to be...**a church that C.A.R.E.S****

CONNECTING