

CONNECTING WITH GOD - Part 1

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

4 METAPHORS ABOUT SPIRITUAL CONNECTION

1. It Is Like Being Built into a Building

“In Christ you are built together spiritually into a dwelling place for God” (Ephesians 2:22 NRSV).

“You are a building that rests on the apostles and prophets as its foundation, with Christ as the cornerstone. In Him the whole structure is welded together and rises into a sacred temple in the Lord, and in Him you are yourselves built into this to form a dwelling for God” (Ephesians 2:20-22 Moffat).

In buildings, a disconnected frame has no support!

2. It Is Like Being Joined to a Body

“In Christ’s Body we’re all connected to each other. When you lie to others, you end up lying to yourself” (Ephesians 4:25 MSG).

“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).

In a body, a disconnected part dies!

3. It Is Like Being Attached to a Vine

“Live in Me, and I will live in you. 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).

“God’s Spirit joins Himself to our spirits to declare that we are God’s children” (Romans 8:16 TEV).

On plants, a disconnected branch cannot bear fruit!

4. It Is Like Being Born into a Family

“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).

“You will be joined together, and you will give glory to God the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. Christ accepted you, so you should accept each other, which will bring glory to God” (Romans 15:6-7 NCV).

In a family, a disconnected member feels unloved!

“I beg you, brothers and sisters...to be completely joined together by having the same kind of thinking and the same purpose” (1 Corinthians 1:10 NCV).

“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).