



CONNECTING WITH THE FAMILY

In this lesson you will learn about connecting with your family – your biological family as well as the family of God (the local church and small groups called “cell groups”).

I. Genesis 12:1-3 – “In you [Abram] all the families of the earth shall be blessed” – v. 3.

- A. God thinks in terms of families – one man and one woman [married] giving birth to children.
- B. God’s idea of family has never changed.

II. How to get into the family:

A. God’s family:

1. John 3:3-7 – You get into God’s family by being born again [from above].
2. John 1:12 – “But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, to those who believe in His name.”

B. Biological family:

1. You get into your biological family through marriage, birth or adoption.

III. Time investment in your family – Statistics from the National Center on Addiction and Substance Abuse indicate lower use of tobacco, alcohol, marijuana, and other drugs for those eating together as a family at least three times a week.

IV. Proper treatment of spouse and family members.

A. Ephesians 5:22-33 – Husbands and wives.

1. A husband is to love his own wife as Christ loves the Church and gave Himself for it.
2. A wife is to respect and submit to her own husband.
3. Ephesians 6:1-4 – Children – obedience to parents brings prosperity and long life.

V. Acts 2:44-47 - Connecting in the Body of Christ.

A. God is building His Church with “living stones” – you and me!

B. Purpose of the church family is two-fold:

1. To **receive** what God has for us through the leadership in the local church and the rest of the Body as we assemble weekly [in local church gatherings and small groups].
2. To **give** what God has imparted into us to those He assigns us to influence.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- Is there someone with whom you need to be reconciled?
- What are some of the ways you can cross the disconnect barrier and reunite with this person?
- Do you want prayer for reconciliation and restoration of a relationship?

BE A DOER OF THE WORD

If there is someone the Spirit of God is directing you to connect with, to reconcile and restore a relationship, what are some of the ways you can touch this person’s heart with the love of God?

SCRIPTURE MEMORY VERSE

Acts 2:46 – “So continuing daily with one accord in the temple [local church], and breaking bread from house to house [“cell” groups], they ate their food with gladness and simplicity of heart.”