

Dear Friend:

Do you have anyone in your life, a friend, relative, or businessperson you need to get in touch with but for one reason or another you have not contacted them? I can think of four people right now whom I need to call (not text, tweet, or email). One lives in Florida, one lives in Indiana, one lives in Dayton, and one lives in Tennessee. No excuse for not contacting them; I have just allowed other priorities to take precedence.

Sometimes this is how we treat God – we need to re-establish our connection with Him but we allow other things to take precedence. Many of you reading this have a connection with Him but it is not as strong as it should be. Perhaps your connection has grown a bit weak, perhaps it is not as strong as it once was. No relationship can ever be as strong as it should be if we do not stay in touch – thus, stay connected. Let me run a connection test for you.

Connection with God begins with prayer. How's your prayer connection with Him? I don't mean just a couple quick prayers a day but prayer that lasts more than 30 seconds. Next, how is your church connection? I will never completely understand how a person can believe they are a Christian but refuse to go to church (shut-ins obviously cannot). This contradicts scripture and ignores the fact that we are commanded to go to church and that Christ died for the church. Do you want to be strongly connected to God? Spend daily time reading God's Word. Not so good at reading? Then try every-other-day reading. A chapter a day with a prayer to follow takes 10 minutes. Stay connected to God by connecting with other Christians. Don't make Christians your exclusive friends but spend enough time with them to help your spiritual life. Stay connected – stay in touch with Him. If you do, your life will change.

In Christ's Love,

Pastor Mike

Prayer: Brenda Carpenter (rehab), Faye Cooper (shut-in), Helen Martindale (Cancer), Pastor Michael Muwonge (difficulties in pastoring)

Events: Women's Ministry, Thursday, August 17<sup>th</sup>