

**Connecting With A Church**  
**#SermonChurch**  
**The Power of Connecting Part 1**  
**Dr. Mark Jackson - September 2, 2018**

*Our Slogan - **Connecting with God and People***

**Ephesians 4:25c** ...In Christ's body we're all connected to each other... (MSG)

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

### **The Benefits of Being Connected**

#### **1. CHURCH MAKES ME LESS ISOLATED**

**Psalm 55:14** We enjoyed being together when we went with others to your house, our God. (CEV)

**Genesis 2:18** And the Lord God said, "It isn't good for man to be alone..." (LB)

**1 Corinthians 1:10b** You must learn to be considerate of one another; cultivating a life in common. (MSG)

**Ephesians 2:19** Now you are no longer strangers to God and foreigners to heaven, but you are members of God's very own family, citizens of God's country, and you belong in God's household with every other Christian. (LB)

#### **2. CHURCH DEVELOPS MY SPIRITUAL MUSCLE**

**Ephesians 4:16** He makes the whole body fit together perfectly. As each part does its own special work, it helps the other parts grow, so that the whole body is healthy and growing and full of love. (NLT)

**Proverbs 27:17** As iron sharpens iron, so people can improve each other. (NCV)

#### **3. CHURCH GIVES ME PURPOSE**

**Romans 12:4-5** ...we are like the various parts of a human body. Each part gets its meaning from the body as a whole, not the other way around. <sup>5</sup> The body we're talking about is Christ's body of chosen people. Each of us finds our meaning and function as a part of his body... (MSG)

**Ephesians 3:10** His intent was that through the church the manifold wisdom of God should be made known... (NIV)

#### **4. CHURCH PROVIDES PROTECTION**

**Hebrews 3:13** But encourage one another daily, as long as it is called Today, so that none of you may be hardened by sin's deceitfulness. (NIV)

**James 5:19** ...if you know people who have wandered off from God's truth, don't write them off. Go after them. Get them back. (MSG)

**Ecclesiastes 4:12** A person standing alone can be attacked and defeated, but two can stand back-to-back and conquer. Three are even better, for a triple-braided cord is not easily broken. (NLT)

#### **5. CHURCH IDENTIFIES ME AS A GENUINE BELIEVER**

**John 13:35** Your love for one another will prove to the world that you are my disciples. (NLT)

**Acts 2:42** They committed themselves to the teaching of the apostles, the life together, the common meal, and the prayers. (MSG)

#### **How Can I Connect With The Bridge Church?**

**Acts 2:41-42, 46** And those who believed Peter were baptized... <sup>42</sup> They joined with the other believers in regular attendance... <sup>46</sup> They worshipped together regularly at the Temple... met in small groups in homes for Communion... with great joy and thankfulness. (LB)