

October 3 – October 9, 2009
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 “connect groups” at Victory).

- 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 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.
 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 and birth.

- 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. (*Tulsa World* article, “Dinnertime Is Family Time,” Sept., 2009.)

- IV. Proper treatment of spouse and family members.
 - A. Ephesians 5:22-33 – Husbands and wives.
 1. Husbands are to love their wives as Christ loves the Church.
 2. Wives are to love and respect their husbands.
 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 rest of the Body.
 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 [“connect” groups], they ate their food with gladness and simplicity of heart.”