



World Conquerors Church
Where You Discover Who You Were Born To Be!
www.worldconquerorschurch.org
2015: THE YEAR OF THE EXTRAORDINARY!

Why Church? Connection – Part II

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Sermon Notes from March 15, 2015

Why Church?

- God wants a connection with you
- God wants you to connect with people
- God wants you to connect with yourself

Why Church? God wants a connection with you.

- God inserted Himself on the inside of you (through Christ) so whenever you are ready you can connect with Him.

Ezekiel 36:26-27 (Contemporary English Version, CEV)

26 I will take away your stubborn heart and give you a new heart and a desire to be faithful. You will have only pure thoughts, 27 because I will put my Spirit in you and make you eager to obey my laws and teachings.

1 John 4:4 (Amplified Bible, AMP)

4 Little children, you are of God [you belong to Him] and have [already] defeated and overcome them [the agents of the antichrist], because **He Who lives in you is greater (mightier) than he who is in the world.**

1 Corinthians 3:16 (New King James Version, NKJV)

Do you not know that you are the temple of God and that the Spirit of God dwells in you?

1 Corinthians 6:19 (NKJV)

Or do you not know that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God, and you are not your own?

2 Corinthians 6:14-18 (The Message, MSG)

14-18 Don't become partners with those who reject God. How can you make a partnership out of right and wrong? That's not partnership; that's war. Is light best friends with dark? Does Christ go strolling with the Devil? Do trust and mistrust hold hands? Who would think of setting up pagan idols in God's holy Temple? But **that is exactly what we are, each of us a temple in whom God lives. God himself put it this way: "I'll live in them, move into them; I'll be their God and they'll be my people.** So leave the corruption and compromise; leave it for good," says God. "Don't link up with those who will pollute you. I want you all for myself. I'll be a Father to you; you'll be sons and daughters to me." The Word of the Master, God.

Why Church? God wants you to connect with people.

Ephesians 4:15-18 (Living Bible, TLB)

15-16 Instead, we will lovingly follow the truth at all times—speaking truly, dealing truly, living truly—and so become more and more in every way like **Christ who is the Head of his body, the Church. Under his direction, the whole body is fitted together perfectly, and each part in its own special way helps the other parts, so that the whole body is healthy and growing and full of love.** 17-18 Let me say this, then, speaking for the Lord: Live no longer as the unsaved do, for they are blinded and confused. Their closed hearts are full of darkness; they are far away from the life of God because they have shut their minds against him, and they cannot understand his ways.

Matthew 22:36-40 (CEV)

36 "Teacher, what is the most important commandment in the Law?" 37 Jesus answered: Love the Lord your God with all your heart, soul, and mind. 38 This is the first and most important commandment. 39 The second most important commandment is like this one. And it is, "**Love others as much as you love yourself.**" 40 All the Law of Moses and the Books of the Prophets are based on these two commandments.

Why Church? God wants you to connect with yourself.

- **James calls God's Word a mirror. The mirror helps us evaluate ourselves. Once you look at a mirror, you can decide if you need to make any changes before you leave for the day. The Bible helps us do that too. You can look at the Bible in one of two ways. You can glance at the mirror or gaze into it. On the old TV show "Happy Days," the Fonz would glance at the mirror. He'd walk past the mirror, stop, look into it, and say, "Heeeyyy!" He didn't have to do anything else. He was pure perfection. He just needed a glance. That's not the way you look into God's Word. You don't just glance at the Word of God in a rushed, hurried manner and then leave. Glancing at God's Word won't change your life nor will it connect you to God. Do you want to be connected with God? It all starts with gazing into God's Word. James 1:22-25 gives you the blueprint for how to study God's Word in a way that He blesses.**

James 1:22-25 (New International Version, NIV)

22 Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says. 23 Anyone who listens to the word but does not do what it says is like someone who looks at his face in a mirror 24 and, after looking at himself, goes away and immediately forgets what he looks like. 25 But whoever looks intently into the perfect law that gives freedom, and continues in it—not forgetting what they have heard, but doing it—they will be blessed in what they do.

- **Read your Bible. “... whoever looks intently ...”**
- **Review the Bible. “... and continues in it ...”**
- **Remember the Bible. “... not forgetting what they have heard ...”**
- **Respond to the Bible. “... but doing it ...”**

Why Church? To teach you how to go through a hardship and come out stronger than ever!

Luke 4:1-14 (AMP)

1 Then Jesus, full of and controlled by the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led in [by] the [Holy] Spirit 2 For (during) forty days in the wilderness (desert), where He was tempted (tried, tested exceedingly) by the devil. And He ate nothing during those days, and when they were completed, He was hungry. 3 Then the devil said to Him, If You are the Son of God, order this stone to turn into a loaf [of bread]. 4 And Jesus replied to him, It is written, Man shall not live and be sustained by (on) bread alone but by every word and expression of God. 5 Then the devil took Him up to a high mountain and showed Him all the kingdoms of the habitable world in a moment of time [in the twinkling of an eye]. 6 And he said to Him, To You I will give all this power and authority and their glory (all their magnificence, excellence, preeminence, dignity, and grace), for it has been turned over to me, and I give it to whomever I will. 7 Therefore if You will do homage to and worship me [just once], it shall all be Yours. 8 And Jesus replied to him, Get behind Me, Satan! It is written, You shall do homage to and worship the Lord your God, and Him only shall you serve. 9 Then he took Him to Jerusalem and set Him on a gable of the temple, and said to Him, If You are the Son of God, cast Yourself down from here; 10 For it is written, He will give His angels charge over you to guard and watch over you closely and carefully; 11 And on their hands they will bear you up, lest you strike your foot against a stone. 12 And Jesus replied to him, [The Scripture] says, You shall not tempt (try, test exceedingly) the Lord your God. 13 And when the devil had ended every [the complete cycle of] temptation, he [temporarily] left Him [that is, stood off from Him] until another more opportune and favorable time. 14 Then Jesus went back full of and under the power of the [Holy] Spirit into Galilee, and the fame of Him spread through the whole region round about.