

The best is yet to come

The Connected Life ...

A life you can enjoy to the max
and know with confidence your
identity, value and purpose



The Connected Life

Session 2 notes

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The Connected Life

An unconnected life is one lived apart from our identity, value and purpose, because we can only find these when we are connected to God. So why do we often let ourselves be driven by things that consume us rather than fulfil us? They cannot solve our problems or satisfy our deepest need, which is to be connected to God.

I LIKE THE IDEA OF BEING CONNECTED TO GOD

YES NO UNSURE

I DON'T THINK I'M GOOD ENOUGH FOR GOD TO LOVE ME

YES NO UNSURE

Our big problem is that we haven't paid much attention to God, let alone bothered trying to please Him or heed how He, the Maker, tells us to get the most out of life. It's frustrating for a Designer when His workmanship is not used as specified and this is exactly what has happened – we live short lives in pain and tears because of our self-inspired approach to life. Instead of loving God and our fellow man we love ourselves, ending up living an unconnected life, a life of straw.

God did not make you a robot with no free choice! He made you a human being, in His image, capable of choosing, of loving Him or hating Him. When we turn our backs on Him through self-reliance, we are choosing to shut Him out of our lives. By any standards that is crazy – God calls such self-reliance 'sin' and regrettably it cannot be overlooked. The consequence of our personal sin is that it disconnects us from God and leaves an aching hole in our hearts that can only be satisfied through connection with Him.

God has made a way for you to find connection with Him – 'The Connected Life' showed you how He helps you to be 'wired' correctly for life.

We looked at the need for electrical appliances and internet gadgets to be connected – like us, each one has a different:

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P

WHICH OF THE FOLLOWING APPLIANCES DO YOU THINK HAS GREATEST VALUE?

- A) COOKER B) KETTLE
 C) COMPUTER D) HOOVER

If the four appliances were able to have a debate, how might they argue their own case?!

The truth is that they are all made to fulfil a specific purpose and their individual value cannot be compared – so it is with each of us.

Designer or Father?

We can choose to ignore God and his best for our lives or we can find it fulfilled in relationship with him as Father.

CONSIDER THE 'BEST DAD' IN THE WORLD – WHAT QUALITIES DOES HE HAVE?!

- 1) How do you feel knowing that you are his child?
- 2) In what sort of ways does he show his love for you?
- 3) When you are secure and happy in such a relationship, what is your motivation towards such a Dad?

God wants you to live a secure, happy and motivated life as his child – this is *The Connected Life*.

It was no small thing for God to give us a connection with Him – He had to find a way to pay the penalty for our disobedience, as the only way we could pay was with our own lives. Shutting God out of our lives meant He needed to find a way back in.

God's master plan was fulfilled in His Son Jesus. Having no sin of His own, He was able to come to earth, live a perfect life and die an innocent death on behalf of you and me. In doing so, He gave us the way back – He became the One who connects us to God. When Jesus died on the cross, He took the blame for our self-reliant disobedience and broke the power of sin and death on our lives.

'For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him. Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe stands condemned already because he has not believed in the name of God's one and only Son.'

..... WORDS OF JESUS

I BELIEVE THAT JESUS DIED FOR MY SIN

TRUE FALSE UNSURE

I WANT A LIFE CONNECTED TO GOD

TRUE FALSE UNSURE

Don't miss God's best for your life. Connect4Life has further helpful free online resources your journey – see short video and prayer <http://connect4life.org.uk/unconnected/unconnected-introduction> and online booklet http://connect4life.org.uk/images/21_Days_UNconnected_lo.pdf (also available to buy as a booklet)