

Now What?

Discover Connecting

There is a friend who sticks closer than a brother. (Proverbs 18:24, New International Version)

The LORD says, 'I will guide you along the best pathway for your life.'
(Psalm 32:8, New Living Translation)

Delight in the law of the LORD, meditating on it day and night. (Psalm 1:2, NLT)

Place yourselves under each other's authority out of respect for Christ. (Ephesians 5:21, God's Word)

Five Benefits of Developing Genuine Friendships

1. You will be wealthier if you develop close friendships.

Plans fail without good advice, but they succeed with the advice of many others.
(Proverbs 15:22, New Century Version)

2. You will be healthier if you develop close friendships.

3. You will live longer if you develop close friendships.

God said, 'It is not good for man to be alone.' (Genesis 2:18, NLT)

We want you ...to have fellowship with us. (1 John 1:3, NCV)

4. You will be a better person if you develop close friendships.

The whole body is fitted 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.
(Ephesians 4:15-16, NLT)

5. You will make fewer costly, embarrassing mistakes if you develop close friendships with godly people.

Do not be fooled: 'Bad friends will ruin good habits.' (1 Corinthians 15:33, NCV)

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.
(Ecclesiastes 4:10, 12, NLT)

How to Connect to Your Spiritual Family

I'm writing . . . so you'll know how to live in the family of God. That family is the church.
(1 Timothy 3:14-15, NCV)

1. If you attend online – Greet your host.

2. If you attend in person, greet those around you, before and after the service.

Greet one another. (Romans 16:16, New American Standard)

3. Start serving on a ministry team.

Serve one another with the particular gifts God has given each of you.
(1 Peter 4:10, Phillips)

4. Establish a spiritual connection.

Once you were dead because of your disobedience and your many sins.
(Ephesians 2:1, NLT)

• Ask Christ to take control of your life.

To all who believed him and accepted him, he gave the right to become children of God.
(John 1:12, NLT)

This means that anyone who belongs to Christ has become a new person. The old life is gone; a new life has begun!
(2 Corinthians 5:17, NLT)

• Ask to be baptized.

Each of you must turn from your sins and turn to God, and be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins.
(Acts 2:38, NLT)

5. Ask to become a BCF member.

Now . . . you are members of God's very own family... and you belong in God's household with every other Christian.
(Ephesians 2:19, The Living Bible)

They joined with the other believers and devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship.
(Acts 2:42, NLT)

6. Ask to join a small group.

If two of you agree on earth about anything that they may ask, it shall be done for them by My Father who is in heaven. For where two or three have gathered together in My name, I am there in their midst.
(Matthew 18:19-20, New American Standard Bible)

7. Keep your friendships healthy.

Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace.
(Ephesians 4:3, NIV)

A person who gossips can't keep secrets. But a trustworthy person can keep a secret.
(Proverbs 11:13, International Children's Bible)

If another believer sins against you, go privately, and point out the offense. If the other person listens and confesses it, you have won that person back. (Matthew 18:15, NLT)

If you are presenting a sacrifice at the altar in the Temple and you suddenly remember that someone has something against you, leave your sacrifice there at the altar. Go and be reconciled to that person. Then come and offer your sacrifice to God. (Matthew 5:23-24, NLT)

A man who refuses to admit his mistakes can never be successful. (Proverbs 28:13, Living)