



CONNECT

Connecting Others to God

#npconnect

Week 3
3 of 3

January 29, 2017

Bottom Line: I am responsible to help others know and experience the way I have found to live life to the fullest.

Icebreaker: What is your favorite NFL team and your least favorite? What would it take to make you switch?

Key Verse: *I pray that you may be active in sharing your faith, so that you will have a full understanding of every good thing we have in Christ.* Philemon 6

Everyone who has ever taken a breath lives forever. Everybody spends forever somewhere. God's great desire is that every single person spend forever with Him. The most familiar Bible verse of all time affirms that the reason God sent His one and only Son Jesus to die was so everyone who believes in Jesus has a new relationship with God that changes them forever (John 3:16).

When we connect with God, we then get the opportunity to connect with His family, the Church, and those connections start improving our forever right now! Here at NewPointe, we believe those connections with others are vital tools that God uses to transform us and fill our lives with satisfaction. Our wonderful forever starts now!

Once we experience connection with God and others, we realize that this is the very thing for which the human heart longs. What we have discovered is what everyone needs. It becomes our goal and passion to help others know and experience what we have found, so they can live life to the fullest too. If you had discovered the cure for all cancer, it would be unthinkable to keep it to yourself. You would want every suffering person to know what you knew, and you would start sharing immediately with the people you love and care about most. We have the cure for sin, a terminal disease that impacts every single person we know. Sharing the cure should be the most significant goal we ever have. It changes life now and forever for all of us.

THINK IT OVER >>>

Thinking back on the weekend message, what inspired you most?

We were reminded that our own spiritual understanding and growth is directly tied to our sharing with others. How have you noticed your own spiritual life improving when you teach or share with others?

Paul was so committed to connecting others to God that he said every other thing in life paled in comparison to sharing the good news (Acts 20:24). What rewards do you think made him feel that way? If your passion for sharing Jesus is a 2 out of 6 possible points, what could you consider to raise it?

Had you ever considered that God holds you responsible for sharing the news of salvation? (Ezekiel 3:18)

LOOK IT OVER <<<

Have you ever tried to share your faith with someone far away from God? What was their response?

How has your relationship with Christ changed your life for good? Whom do you know who has similar needs? How might you connect with them to share the good news?

Jesus doesn't want the church to be an exclusive club. He wants everyone to know Him and follow Him. So we think it's vital that as we personally become fully engaged, we invest in the unchurched people in our lives. Making that strong connection has 3 steps: Investing, Inviting, and Including.

Take a look at your relationships. Who needs your investment? Who needs to be invited to take the next step? Whose successful future depends on being included? Take some destiny-altering action.

NEXT STEPS

This week, consider taking some next steps together as a group:

1. Including is one of the easily forgotten vital elements of connecting others to God. Whom do you know who is on the fringes of the family? How can you together help them become a part of the fellowship?
2. Share the name/brief story of a main person who connected you to God. Pray prayers of thanksgiving.

EVALUATION/ACTION Realizing and reaching your full potential in Christ

Bottom Line: I am responsible to help others know and experience the way I have found to live life to the fullest.

Rate yourself from 1 to 10 1 (never), 10 (always)	1	2	3	4		6	7	8	9	10
Why did you give yourself this rating?										
What benefits will you obtain by raising your rating?										
Do you know someone who demonstrates this bottom line well? What do you admire about that person?										
What specific action can you put into practice to raise your rating?										
At the end of this week, reflect - where did you see the bottom line show up in your actions throughout the week?										

PRAYER

List group members and their prayer requests for this week:

DAILY STUDY

Want to dig deeper? Check out **The Daily** this week at newpointe.org/daily:

Day 1: John 3:16
Day 2: Romans 1:16
Day 3: Philemon 6
Day 4: Acts 20:24
Day 5: Ezekiel 3:18

Don't let the conversation stop here. Keep talking it over with others throughout the week.
(Don't forget to bring this paper to your next small group meeting)