

Dots: Making Connections

📖 *Matthew 28:19–20 (NIV)* “Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, **baptizing them** in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, ²⁰ and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.”

FELLOWSHIP IS ABOUT MEMBERSHIP: [CHOOSING TO BELONG](#)

📖 *Romans 12:4–5 (NIV)* “Just as each of us has one body with many members, and these members do not all have the same function, ⁵ so in Christ we who are many form one body, and each member belongs to all the others.”

📖 *Ephesians 2:19 (LB)* “Now you are no longer strangers to God and foreigners to heaven, but you are members of God’s very own family, citizens of God’s country, and you belong in God’s household with every other Christian.”

- There are **Biblical** reasons to join a church.
- There are **cultural** reasons to join a church.
- There are **practical** reasons to join a church.
- There are **personal** reasons to join a church.

📖 *Hebrews 10:25 (NIV)* “Let us not give up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but let us encourage one another—and all the more as we see the Day approaching.”

FELLOWSHIP IS ABOUT RELATIONSHIP: [LOVING LIKE FAMILY](#)

📖 *Ephesians 1:5 (NLT)* “God decided in advance to adopt us into His own family by bringing us to Himself through Jesus Christ. This is what He wanted to do, and it gave Him great pleasure.”

📖 *Galatians 3:26 (NLT)* “You are all children of God through faith in Christ Jesus.”

📖 *1 Peter 1:14–16 (NIV)* “As obedient children, do not conform to the evil desires you had when you lived in ignorance. ¹⁵ But just as He who called you is holy, so be holy in all you do; ¹⁶ for it is written: “Be holy, because I am holy.”

📖 *1 Timothy 3:14–15 (NCV)* “Although I hope I can come to you soon, I am writing these things to you now. ¹⁵ Then, even if I am delayed, you will know how to live in the family of God. That family is the church of the living God, the support and foundation of the truth.”

📖 *Romans 12:10 (NIV)* “Be devoted to one another in brotherly love. Honor one another above yourselves.”

FELLOWSHIP IS ABOUT PARTNERSHIP: [DOING OUR PART](#)

📖 *Ephesians 4:16 (NIV)* “From Him the whole body, joined and held together by every supporting ligament, grows and builds itself up in love, as each part does its work.”

📖 *1 Corinthians 12:15–22 (NIV)* “If the foot should say, “Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body,” it would not for that reason cease to be part of the body. ¹⁶ And if the ear should say, “Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body,” it would not for that reason cease to be part of the body. ¹⁷ If the whole body were an eye, where would the sense of hearing be? If the whole body were an ear, where would the sense of smell be? ¹⁸ But in fact God has arranged the parts in the body, every one of them, just as He wanted them to be. ¹⁹ If they were all one part, where would the body be? ²⁰ As it is, there are many parts, but one body. ²¹ The eye cannot say to the hand, “I don’t need you!” And the head cannot say to the feet, “I don’t need you!” ²² On the contrary, those parts of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable...”

FELLOWSHIP IS ABOUT FRIENDSHIP: [DOING LIFE TOGETHER](#)

📖 *Acts 2:42 (NIV)* “They devoted themselves to the apostles’ teaching and to the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer.”

📖 *Acts 2:43–47 (NIV)* “Everyone was filled with awe, and many wonders and miraculous signs were done by the apostles. ⁴⁴ All the believers were together and had everything in common. ⁴⁵ Selling their possessions and goods, they gave to anyone as he had need. ⁴⁶ Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts. They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts, ⁴⁷ praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people. And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved.”

What will we see when all of our dots are connected? What will our church become when we properly welcome the people God sends to join us? What will happen when corporately we are perusing holiness intently? What will this place become when everyone does their part? Can you picture it? Can you see it? ...It will be a church that **Glorifies God and IMPACTs its Community and the World!**

