

No Limits with Pastor Delman

How To Remain Connected To God

John 15:1-6

INTRODUCTION

We all hate when we're trying to use our cell phone, talk on a zoom call, or stream a movie or TV show and we lose connection. It's frustrating. It's annoying. And it's inconvenient. It's a disruption that you'd rather not have to deal with. But as frustrating as that type of disruption can be, experiencing a spiritual disruption is much worse. Maybe you're currently experiencing a disruption in your spiritual life. You've been experiencing an interference of sorts. Your spiritual signal has grown dim. You're struggling to hear and obey what God is saying. You can't put your finger on exactly what's happening, but you know that something is off, the connection is weak, and you're not as fruitful as God wants you to be. And when that happens, connection is key. So in this message, I want to give you three ways that you can remain connected to God.

KEY POINTS

1. Talk To A Specialist

As Jesus is speaking in today's key passage of Scripture, He is saying that whenever you are facing a problem in life, whether it's an emotional or mental health issue, a spiritual matter, a relational or financial problem, talk to the Gardener. Bring your problems to Jesus. I know you're smart, and I know you're bright, but it's ok to seek the assistance of someone who can help you navigate this season.

Additionally, don't be afraid to seek out wise counsel if you're going through a season where you don't feel connected to God. Time and time again God uses His people to point each other back to Him. So whether it's a spiritual advisor, a counselor/therapist, or an accountability partner, reach out to someone who can lead you back to Jesus and who will walk with you as you seek to restore your connection with Him.

2. Make Sure You're Connected To The Right Source

It strikes me that Jesus says, "I am the true vine." In other words, there are things that can supply your life, but you want to make sure you are connected to the right source for your life. A lot of people miss God because they are connected to the wrong things, the wrong people, the wrong behaviors, and the wrong activities.

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Many people experience disruption in life because they are not properly connected, and when that happens, you'll end up doing things outside of your character, like self-medicating and doing things to numb and mask your pain. The fruitfulness that the text is talking about, spiritual fruitfulness, requires us to be connected to the right things. The reason Jesus notes that He is the true vine, versus just any other vine, is because, in life, it is easy to become linked or connected to something or someone else other than God. Therefore we must make sure we are connected to the right source.

3. Upgrade Your Equipment

I'm struck by how frequently people update their technology, but in their spiritual lives, they stay where they are. Their prayer life hasn't increased. Their time in the Word is the same. They're not more generous to God when it comes to giving. They are like this walking contradiction. They are walking around with updated phones, but a downgraded life.

Therefore, if you want to have a strong connection with God, you're going to have to upgrade your equipment. You're going to have to invest more in your relationship with Him in order to get stronger and be able to handle the challenges that come your way as you continue to follow Him.

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QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER

- 1. Do you have a specialist you can talk to, other than Jesus, when you're dealing with a weak spiritual connection? If not, how can you go about reaching out to one this week to begin to develop that relationship?
- 2. Would you say you derive what you need from the right source (Jesus) or do you seek to get your needs met from worldly sources?
- 3. Is there any area of your spiritual life where you need to "upgrade your equipment?" If so, what do you think needs upgrading, and how can you take a step to start upgrading it this week?