***T.L. Elliott Ministries Bible Study Notes***

***Subject: “Spiritual Connections”***

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John 10:30; 1 Cor. 8:6; 1 John 2:5-17; Rom. 10:14

**Primary questions one should explore regarding connections and their spiritual walk with GOD:**

Is “connection” important for my spiritual walk? If so, am I spiritually connected to anyone? Who am I spiritually connected to and abide with? Do I need to spiritually disconnect? If so, who do I need to spiritually disconnect from?

1. **What is the meaning of “connection?”**

Answer: “Connection” is defined as the state of bonding together, linking together, relationship, acquaintance.

1. **What does it mean to “abide” with someone and how does it associate with connection?**

Answer: The term “abide” means to accept and acknowledge therefore meaning those that one “connects with, they accept or consent to who they are in their life. The Greek word for “abide” is “Meno,” which means to remain with which speaks to the fact that those we “connect to,” there is an intent to remain with them. The Hebraic word for “abide” is “Loon,” which means to lodge or remain with them, which speaks to having a “living” relationship with them.

Note that ‘abiding” is key for reciprocation for those that are connected to each other.

1. **Is “connection” or “relationship” referenced in the Bible?**

Answer: No, “connection” or “relationship” is not referenced in the scriptures but they are indirectly referred to throughout the scriptures.

1. **Is there a need for spiritual connections in the life of individual? If so, when and why?**

Answer: Yes, it is needed for:

* When time has been taken to observe those being considered for connection: Jesus choosing Disciples
* Positive influence to one’s life from an external source.
* Spiritual livelihood because we “spiritually lodge to spiritually live.”
* Legality/legitimacy of spiritual impartation of purpose, assignments, vision, hearing, blessings, anointing, destiny and oneness:

**Purpose:** Man (Adam) & Woman (Eve) to GOD

**Assignment:** Joshua to Moses; Caleb to Joshua; Jonathan to David

**Vision:** Potiphar & Pharaoh to Joseph; Saul to Samuel

**Hearing:** The people of GOD & preachers (Rom. 10:14)

**Deliverance:** Abraham & Isaac to GOD; Lot & His Wife; Noah & His Family to GOD; Rehab to Joshua; Hananiah, Mishael & Azariah to Daniel; Silas to Paul

**Blessings:** Shunammite Woman to Elijah; Lot to Abraham; Mordecai to Esther

**Anointing:** David to Samuel; Elisha to Elijah; the Apostles to Jesus

**Empowerment:** Barnabas to Paul

**Destiny:** Ruth to Boaz**,** Timothy to Paul, Apostles to Jesus

**Oneness:** Jesus to GOD (John 10:30); Husband to a Wife (Gen. 2:24; Matt. 19:5; Mark 10:7)

1. **Who should one spiritually connect with?**

Answer: Those who are spiritual to assist them in their areas of stumbling (Gal. 6:1). This is beneficial because they have the mind of Christ (1 Cor. 2: 14-16).

1. **When should on spiritually connect with someone?**

Answer: One should connect to another when wishing to impart their anointing or one is seeking their destiny (1 Kings 19:19). Understand that connections are purposed for the benefit of both parties.

1. **Is there a difference in the types of connections one should recognize?**

Answer: Yes, because people connect in one’s life for a reason, season or a lifetime. The connection must be discerned however in order to maintain the right relationship. This is necessary in order to prevent negative results.

* Connection by reason: Connections that assist people becoming better or worse in their spiritual growth. These connections are either positive or negative. Examples: The Apostles to each other; Paul to Silas, Timothy, and Barnabas
* Connection by season: Connections that are for a period of time to sustain or enhance an individual’s spiritual growth: Elijah & Elisha; Jesus & Apostles; Paul to Silas & Timothy
* Connection by lifetime: Connections which are eternal in nature for the best interest of one’s spiritual eternity. These relationships are not limited by time or space: Jesus to Apostles and us (Matt. 28:20)
1. **What makes connections legitimate in relationships (spiritually & physically)?**

Answer: Establishing a covenant (Gen. 9:9, 11), vow (Gen. 28:20; 31:13; John 1:16; 2:9), agreement (Isaiah 36:16) or marriage (Ex. 21:10; Heb. 13:4; Rev. 19:7) with other individual. Know that “real” connections are not due to “association” with others.

1. **Is there a need for “spiritual disconnections” in the life of an individual? If so, why?**

Answer: Yes, because of:

* Physical death of an individual: Moses & Joshua
* Nothing else can be taught or poured into the relationship: Eli & Samuel
* Completion of an assignment by reason or season: Elijah & Elisha; Jesus & Apostles
* Connections become negative in nature: Samuel & Saul; David & Saul. Note that in some cases, people try to maintain these connections against the will of the disconnection.
* Clear vision of instructions given by GOD are blocked: Abraham & Lot
* Disobedience to GOD’s instructions for one’s salvation: Lot & his wife
* Connections wanted due to the agenda of establishing control: Satan & Jesus in the wilderness
1. **Who should one spiritually disconnect from?**

Answer:

-Individuals who do not embrace exercising a real connection in order to keep their connection both active and beneficial (sinful human nature: jealousy, hatred, anger, etc.): Saul & David

-Individuals that the presence/anointing of GOD no longer reside with resulting in their character being ungodly and the relationship becomes non-productive or non- beneficial: Samuel & Saul

-Family and friends when it is necessary to perform assignments given by GOD: Abraham & Family; Joseph & Family

**11. What makes most disconnect legitimate?**

Answer: Recognition of uncleanness and divorcing the relationship/connection (Deut. 24:1; Jer. 3:8; Matt. 5:31)

1. **Is it possible for one to ever reconnect with those one has disconnected from?**

Answer: Yes, because of:

-Individual’s hearts being restored to a righteous place and the prosperity of GOD is in the midst of the connection: Joseph & his brothers; Jesus & Peter; Jesus & us

-After a “divorce” when one needs to return home to their original place of connection (Lev. 22:13)

-When one realizes the error that they have made in making the wrong disconnect: Prodigal Son

**13. Questions one must ask themselves regarding their spiritual connections:**

 Who are you connected to? Are you legally connected to the right people? Who do you need to disconnect from? Are your connections hindering you from accomplishing GOD’s will for your life? Has your connections embraced or hindered your godly purpose? Has your connections embraced or hindered your godly destiny? Has your connections embraced or hindered your godly assignments?

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