



# ARTICLE 5

## CONNECT

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When we think of that word these days, we probably think about things like our internet or cable connection. We are thinking about connections all the time. Plains and trains use the word to talk about going from one flight or train to another. Our life is filled with connections whether it is an appointment, a friend, traveling or technology. Our life is filled with connections. Our interaction on social media shows us that as well between chats, like and comments, we are constantly trying to stay in touch with one another.

All of scripture is built around connection. From the covenants of the Old Testament to the disciples at the foot of the cross. Jesus was all about connection. He spent time with people, at dinner with them, visited their homes, talked to them on street corners. My favorite connection of Jesus and another is the woman at the well (John 4: 1-53). It is so full of who Jesus is and how much he loves us and what we need from Him. All Jesus wanted to do was freshen up while his disciples went in to town for some food. He ended up not only spending some time with her and meeting her where she was at but also transforming her as well. He talks about living water and the Spirit and by the end of the conversation, she is filled with the spirit! So, much so that she goes into town and convinces everyone to come out and meet him (a town that looked down on her prior to this, read story to see change). Not only does the town come out to listen to him but he spends a few days with them. Changing a brief stop to freshen up into a time to show people what love is. We could say the same of Zacchaeus, Nicodemus, Levi turned Matthew.

I could go on and on with stories of Jesus and his desire to build a relationship with us. I will give you one more example of how we were made to make connections, to build relationships.

We are made in the image and likeness of God. It says this in Genesis 1: 26, Then God said: Let us make human beings in our image, after our likeness. Remembering that God is a trinity of beings: the father, son and holy spirit. A way to understand the trinity is through an exchange of love. The Father's love for the Son and The Son's love for the Father is so strong that it is its own person, The Holy Spirit. That exchange of love lives within us through Baptism and Confirmation. We are made from a love for relationship, it is built into our DNA! God the Father wants nothing more than to walk with us in the garden again! We grow closer and closer to holiness through the relationships we allow in our lives. They make us stronger through sharing His love with others!

I talk about this a lot in our parish, the communities we live in are full of other Catholics. When someone tells me where they live, I usually say, "hey, do you know so and so lives there too!" Do we take advantage of that? Do we connect with each other in our communities? Bringing our parish family together in our communities helps others to see what family is all about and then we can start to invite them to and "Connect" becomes away to evangelize! We are and we don't even know it introducing people to Jesus!

Until then, reflect on these things.....

- What do the relationships in my life look like? Between me and God, family and friends?
- There is a saying that we are the sum of our five closest friends? Is that true? What does that look like?
- In this world where we long to connect, are we really? And how often are we doing that with Jesus?
- Have we been to the adoration chapel? Do we pray and how do we pray?

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**NEXT ARTICLE:  
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