CONNECTING TO FELLOWSHIP

September 7, 2014
2 Great Needs In The Church:
- Connection
- Fellowship

The People Who Make A Difference In Our Lives Are Those Who Have A Connection With Us
Fellowship Is Not Optional In Biblical Christianity

Man Was Created For Fellowship

(Rom 14:7 NIV) For none of us lives to himself alone and none of us dies to himself alone.
The Kingdom Of God Is All About Relationships
- Relationship with God
- Relationships with People

(Romans 1:12 NLT) “I’m eager to encourage you in your faith, but I also want to be encouraged by yours. In this way, each of us will be a blessing to the other.”
Everything In The Kingdom Flows To Us On The Basis Of Relationship

- Salvation
- Baptism In The Holy Spirit
- Healing
- Great Worship
- Anointing
The Place Of Right Relationship Is Found When We Remain (Or Abide) In Jesus

(John 15:4-5 NIV) **Remain in me, and I will remain in you.** No branch can bear fruit by itself; it must remain in the vine. Neither can you bear fruit unless you remain in me. (5) "I am the vine; you are the branches. **If a man remains in me and I in him, he will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing.**

(John 15:7 NIV) If you **remain in me** and my **words remain in you,** ask whatever you wish, and it will be given you.
The Christian Faith Is All About Relationship

Everything We Want For Our Church Flows Out Of Relationship

- Great Worship
- Great Outreach
- Great Discipleship
- Growth & Maturity
We Belong In God’s Family With Other Believers
  - Gal 6:10

We Need To Be In A Local Fellowship To Grow Spiritually
  - Heb 10:24

We Need Accountability In Order To Grow Spiritually
  - Prov 27:17
CONNECTING TO FELLOWSHIP

- Christ Is Present When We Fellowship Together
  - Mat 18:20

- Fellowship Is A Witness To The World
  - John 13:35; John 17:21

- We Are Obligated To Other Christians
  - 1 Peter 4:10
Fellowship, Friendship & Connection Are Great Needs -- Yet Not Easy To Come By

If You Don’t Have Anybody To Connect To In This Life-- Your Life Will Seem Empty
CONNECTING TO FELLOWSHIP

- Many People Find That It Is Difficult To Get Involved In A Church, Especially In A Growing Congregation

- One Way To Develop Meaningful Relationships With Other People Is By Joining A Connect Group
Connecting to Fellowship

- Connection is the foundation of how people grow.

- We need to see and experience God in and through others.

- One way that God chooses to connect with people is through people.
At Cocoa First Assembly We Believe That

As Our Church Grows Larger
We Must Grow Smaller
A Potential Problem = Lack Of Quality Relationships / Loneliness / People Falling Through The Cracks

God Never Intended For Us To Live Our Lives Alone Or Walk Out Our Christian Faith Alone

The Answer: Everyone Of Us Needs To Belong To A Connect Group
CONNECTING TO FELLOWSHIP

- Connect Groups Are Get-Togethers Where We Come In Contact With People

- Connect Groups Help Us To Connect In Faith, Friendship, And Fun!
The Goals Of Connect Groups Are:

- To Connect With God
- To Connect With Each Other
- To Connect With The World
Wherever You Are In Your Journey Of Life, There’s A Place For You In A Connect Group At Cocoa First Assembly!

Connect Groups Provide An Avenue For Christian Fellowship To Take Place
Through Our Connect Groups We Are:
- Building Friendships
- Building Faith
- Building God's Kingdom Together!

We Can't Just Hope Members Will Make Friends In The Church. We Must Encourage It, Plan For It, Structure For It, And Facilitate It

We Must Think Relationally
A Healthy Life Is All About Making The Right Connections

- Connecting With God -- With Others

You Can Join a Connect Group Today

We Look Forward To Seeing You There
Hebrews 13:5b (NIV) ... God has said, "Never will I leave you; never will I forsake you."

“He will never, never, never leave us or forsake us.”