

THIS IS LESSON ONE OF CONNECT-TALKSM

Don't give up. Jesus has a plan. He connects with you, now you reach out to Him. He will give you His model of how to connect with your beloved and teach you personally. Without building on lesson One, you will be hampered in moving forward, much like a lonely emotional cripple.

HERE'S HOW TO CONNECT-WALKSM

BUILDING BLOCK ONE

Listen to this:

I am the (only) Way....

Checkpoint listen:

What does this mean to me today? What else am I trying to fill my needs - outside of Jesus? Does He really mean what He says? What does this mean, "to connect to Him"? Can I really trust it can happen? (Lk. 11:9)

Re-listen again now with your heart:

This is meant for me now. List three ways I am using other ways to fill my needs and ignoring Jesus as being the Only way. How have I avoided Him today? How do I avoid Jesus and ignore connecting with Him? Say it out loud to the Cross.

Think it/Feel it:

I am so lonely. Things aren't working out being so detached from Jesus and others. Feeling okay just by myself doesn't last... doesn't satisfy. I've got to do something ... I'll make a change!

NOW RESPOND TO WHAT YOU'VE HEARD, THOUGHT & FELT

How to Connect-WalkSM with Jesus:

Pick up your New Testament Bible. Pray-Talk to Jesus. Image Him and tell Him out loud. Your ear must hear what your heart desires. LOUDER.

"Jesus my Brother, Speak to the ear of my heart! Holy Spirit help me connect to my Jesus. Jesus, understand me. I want to talk to You, that I might walk with You, now!" Then say the Lord's Prayer slowly out loud and then: "Heavenly Father...I need the gift of ears to heart-listen to my Brother Jesus, Your Son. I thank You for helping me in advance." Now repeat this all out loud with all the intensity of your heart ...until you feel it.

Next open up your New Testament, anywhere, without searching. Let Jesus give it to you. It will be His message. Don't read more than one line. Put your name in it, your life in it, your situation in it. Tell yourself. Jesus is Connect-TalkingSM to me. (He does, because He lives, knows you intimately, hears you and is speaking through the Holy Spirit.)

Write it out, chapter, verse, date it. What does Jesus say to you this day and how does the Holy Spirit inspire you to act on it. Say It & Do It!

Practice this Connect-TalkingSM with Jesus once each day even as you move forward into the other Connect-TalkSM Lessons ahead.

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We are established for the healing of relationships. We focus on marriage, parenting & families, and in so doing seek to invite "Connect-TalkSM" dialog between all. It is "Hearing with Your Heart" that will re-humanize secular society, and in so doing connect each "one on one" with ourselves and into a vibrant love-connection with Jesus, the Christ, whether seen or unseen, as He is the only one Who truly reflects and embodies "the Way, the Truth, and the Life". This is the essence of being in true Healthy Adult Mode, a standard that only has reality by an objective and absolute definition.

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54903-0434

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JESUS' MODEL & YOUR TURN TO TRY CONNECT-TALKSM

A *glorious* marriage...are you willing to go that far? Anything less however doesn't satisfy. *Marriage*...God made it to be exactly that, *glorious!* Really? Simple, God made it to reflect His glory. What is that? It's the love between your Father in Heaven, His Son, Jesus, and the "Connection" between them, the ever glorious Holy Spirit. In fact the spirit of This Connection is so glorious and so divine, we call it HOLY and equal to God Himself. In fact, it is the 3rd Person of the Holy Trinity, God's own Spirit.

How is this connected to my and your marriages? Simple. It's God's own Model. The love between you and your spouse is meant to be nothing but glorious. This love is to have its own personhood so to speak. That means there is no room for mediocre or for Mr./Ms. Inbetween! To fulfill your needs and that of your spouse takes a glorious accomplishment, and when it begins to happen it looks and feels glorious ..something you know you could have never done by yourself. It in fact witnesses GOD. How about that! Be proud of the fact that you have start-ed your journey to Connect and turn failure into GLORY!

Praised be Jesus, waiting to be your Lord and leader into the narrow way of **Connect-TalkSM/Connect-WalkSM!**

BUILDING Block ONE: CONNECT-TALKSM

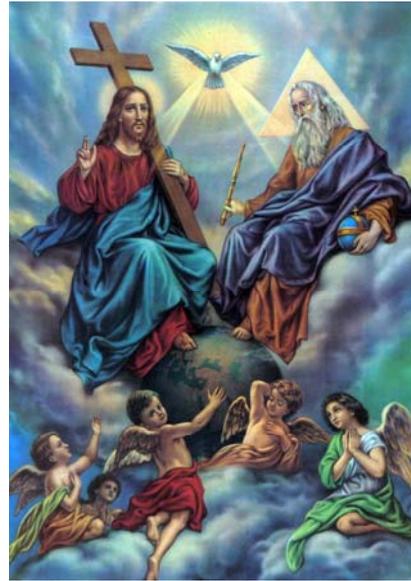
You've always wanted something better...here it is: the way to connect with your spouse or someone you want to marry and keep it going your whole life long and beyond. Even if you don't know how to do it, don't give up! **Model Jesus; He is the Grand-Connector.** We'll try to show you what His model is and how to follow it. He is our perfect Mentor-Model, who connects soul to soul in the manner of His own connection with His Father and the Indwelling Spirit. In fact, in the perfect Trinity connection all three, Father, Son & Spirit, retain their individual Personhood yet remain forever One. So does **Connect-TalkSM** preserve your individual personality while you work at becoming one mind and one heart in your love-understanding with each other.

So want to learn? Keep hanging on. It may have been a rocky road getting here to the point that you now want to learn how to connect, but nothing is for naught. (Rom. 8:28) Jesus, who did it right will teach you through word and action. So, put your hand in His; listen with your heart as a teachable disciple, imitate the Master, and hang in there however frustrating the road. Human ways

** When you read this, we suggest looking up the scripture and reading it alongside our text so you learn more. Hear with your heart what Jesus is saying to you.*

NO PART OF THIS TRACT IS MEANT TO BE
PSYCHOLOGICAL OR COUNSELING ADVICE. IT IS
SOLELY EDUCATIONAL.

are up and down, disruptive and disconnecting — pride and self interests rule the day; but God is love and peace. So, choose your road and...here we go. (Jn.17:21-23; 1Pet.2:1-12)



In relationship, life is never boring. Now reflect. Isn't boring a big part of what led you to detaching in the first place? Life is terrible and boring without the stimulation of a great in-love relationship. Were you perhaps never blessed with this greatest of blessings? Or, you had it once and somehow lost it?

You know the old army slogan: "looking for a few good men..." Well here it is, you may have messed up in the past, but God is a "pick yourself up & second chance Man". Take it and make something great of yourself. Yes, God's plan for you is greatness. Never mind how deep down you fell. Take St. Augustine of

Hippo as a role model...talk about unhealthy coping mechanisms conquered! Wow!!

It's a fact. God created you with power and love to make something great out of you, IF you learn how to connect. This is how to connect with Jesus: Pray for it. Try it vocally, loudly, yes, out loud, with urgent emotion. "Jesus, I love You! I'll do it Your way! help me!" That's **Connect-TalkSM**. Now watch and follow. That's **Connect-WalkSM**. (Mt.11:28-30)

The first thing we need to get straightened out is your own personal connection with Jesus! Only narcissists pretend they can do it alone.

"Why is that?" you ask. Well, first be honest with yourself. Did you ever succeed with anything really worthwhile completely on your own? And have you been able to succeed breaking the cycle of your relationship on your own? Who are you kidding?

So, here's the secret...You were made to be truly loved. Yes, messed up as you may be, you are not abandoned; you are truly loved. Can you see "Love" hanging on the cross? He did it for you... He cannot say it clearer. Look on His face and tell Him openly. He's there to convince and to help. Repeat it out loud again, and it will come so much easier, does it not? (Lk.23:34)

The problem is you feel lousy about yourself, kind of defective, huh? Well, our Lord and Savior Jesus feels what you suffer, and He took your guilt upon Himself. The Christ died for this sort of thing. "For what?" you ask. For these failures of mine? Yup. And, much more. He wants you to forget dwelling

on how rotten you fell about yourself, and start binding up the wounds you gave Him and move on. Remember the parable of the prodigal son? The same goes for the prodigal daughter. The Lord welcomes you home - here, now, not just in heaven. He welcomes you into His own family. (Lk.15:11-32)



So, that is your first Connection. Jesus is "**Connect-TalkingSM**" with you. "You are my son, my daughter. I re-parented you...in water and blood. You are reborn. I am your Brother; My Father is your Father. My mother is your mother. I am your affectionate, very near, very understanding and affirming Brother. No, don't get Me wrong. Affirming does not mean agreeing; it means you are connected with Me...washed clean...starting over. Unlike humans, our connection does not end — even when you mess up...only if you refuse to talk to Me and walk where I walk." (Paraphrase of Jn.15:4)