Connected

John 15:1-5

"I am the vine; you are the branches. Those who remain in me, and I in them, will produce much fruit." John 15:5 (NLT)

Be encouraged to:

1. STAY CONNECTED TO ______.

A survey of almost 3000 protestant churchgoers in the USA showed that 19% of them read the Bible every day, 26% a few times a week, 14% once a week, 22% at least once a month and 18% read the Bible rarely or never.

"You must not make for yourself an idol of any kind, or an image of anything in the heavens or on the earth or in the sea. You must not bow down to them or worship them, for I, the Lord your God, am a jealous God who will not tolerate your affection for any other gods." Deuteronomy 5:8-9 (NLT)

"How well God must like you—you don't hang out at Sin Saloon, you don't slink along Dead-End Road, you don't go to Smart-Mouth College. Instead you thrill to God's Word, you chew on Scripture day and night. You're a tree replanted in Eden, bearing fresh fruit every month, never dropping a leaf, always in blossom." Psalm 1:1-3 (MSG)

2. STAY CONNECTED TO GOD'S _____.

"All the believers devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching, and to fellowship, and to sharing in meals (including the Lord's Supper), and to prayer." Acts 2:42 (NLT)

"They worshiped together at the Temple each day, met in homes for the Lord's Supper, and shared their meals with great joy and generosity—all the while praising God and enjoying the goodwill of all the people. And each day the Lord added to their fellowship those who were being saved." Acts 2:46-47 (NLT)

"Let us not neglect our church meetings, as some people do, but encourage and warn each other, especially now that the day of his coming back again is drawing near." Hebrews 10:25 (LB)

"All of you together are the one body of Christ, and each one of you is a separate and necessary part of it." 1 Corinthians 12:27 (LB)

The value of a church:

* We get to _____ God's Word together.

* We get to honor God together through ______.

* We find ______.

* We find ______ in times of difficulty.

* We get opportunities to ______.

"I was glad when they said to me, "Let us go to the house of the Lord." Psalm 122:1 (NLT)

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Bible Translations: New Living Translation (NLT); The Message Paraphrase (MSG); The Living Bible (LB). Sermon by Albert Potgieter.