

BUILDING BETTER RELATIONSHIPS
2-3-2019

and this, not as we expected, but they gave themselves first to the Lord and then by the will of God to us. 2 Corinthians 8:5

so we, though many, are one body in Christ, and individually members one of another. Romans 12:5

All this energy issues from Christ: God raised him from death and set him on a throne in deep heaven, in charge of running the universe, everything from galaxies to governments, no name and no power exempt from his rule. And not just for the time being, but forever. He is in charge of it all, has the final word on everything. At the center of all this, Christ rules the church. The church, you see, is not peripheral to the world; the world is peripheral to the church. The church is Christ's body, in which he speaks and acts, by which he fills everything with his presence. Ephesians 1:23 (Message)

WHY ARE RELATIONSHIPS SO IMPORTANT?

1. Part of God's Temple

Do you not know that you are God's temple and that God's Spirit dwells in you? 1 Corinthians 3:16

in whom the whole structure, being joined together, grows into a holy temple in the Lord. In him you also are being built together into a dwelling place for God by the Spirit. Ephesians 2:21-22

2. Part of Christ's Body

And he put all things under his feet and gave him as head over all things to the church, which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all. Ephesians 1:22-23

"In Christ's Body we're all connected to each other . . ." Ephesians 4:25b (Message)

For as in one body we have many members, and the members do not all have the same function, so we, though many, are one body in Christ, and individually members one of another. Romans 12:4-5

3. Fruit connected to the vine

I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing. John 15:5

Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit by itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in me. John 15:4

4. A member of God's Family

The Spirit himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God, Romans 8:16

"Love your brothers and sisters in God's family!" 1 Peter 2:17 (NLT)