

Lost signal – Lost connection

Romans 15:13 KJV Now the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, that ye may abound in hope, through the power of the Holy Ghost.

These cell phones are a modern day marvel.

- It has a signal that you can't touch, hear, smell – but yet you can communicate – on so many levels.

I can...

- Call my wife
- Call you
- Do my banking
- Pay my bills
- Listen to music
- Check the weather
- Control the thermostats at the church
- See where my dog is at
- Take a picture
- Send a picture
- Receive a picture
- Get directions and to find a destination
- Send Missions support to the Bazarapukur Orphanage in India
- View any place on the planet through Google Earth
- Book a flight, or rent a car
- Read the Wall Street Journal
- Read the Bible

The list goes on and on doesn't it?

There are so many other things we can do with these things.

- Until the signal is lost.
- Once the signal is lost, you got nothing.
- No communications
- No banking

- No check on the weather
- No directions
- No view of the earth
- And the list goes on doesn't it.

And all this,

- on a signal that bounces from tower to tower
- and satellite dish to satellite dish,
- but can any of you explain to me how that happens?
- If you can, never mind, I'm sure it's all too complicated for my mind to understand.

And yet without understanding how it all works.

- This invisible signal that is floating around this room right now with it's trillions of bits of information every second, that we can't see, touch, smell, hear...
- And we depend on it so much don't we.
- In fact according to statistics, the average user checks their phone 150 times per day. That's about once every 6 minutes.
- The vast majority of people check their phones immediately when waking up or during breakfast and again at night before they go to bed.

And every time they check it, what are they depending on?

- There being a signal.

But what happens when the signal is lost?

- Our world stops doesn't it.
- We panic, because we can't make a phone call or check our Facebook.
- And we worry that someone might be trying to get ahold of us and can't reach us.
- Anxiety.
- And then we go to the phone store and get angry with the people who trying to help us get our signal restored.
- Ya, here they are trying to help us and we get mad at them.
- I want my signal!
- I want my connection!

But the signal I want to talk about this morning is not the signal that comes to and from these things.

I want to talk about our Spiritual Connection.

- I understand that when my spiritual connection is in tact, that I have a connection on a level that you cannot touch, see, hear etc.
- But we depend on that signal being there, don't we.
- For so many reasons.
- My spiritual connection connects me to the people around me and my relationships with them.
- It connects me to my Savior and my relationship with Him.
- I get my worldview from that signal.
- My financial positions are connected to that signal
- I can affect what's going on at the Bazarapukur Orphanage on a daily basis because of my spiritual connection.
- I connect to the spiritual thermostat at the church through it.
- I get my direction from it.
- There's times I wake up to a worship song because of my spiritual connection
- I go to bed at night and rest knowing that He's going to watch over me and mine while I sleep because of that connection.

And when that spiritual connection is down, all that stops.

- And when it stops, we panic don't we.

I mean our world begins to unravel many times.

- Fear
- Worry
- Anxiety
- Doubt
- Doubt of God's existence
- Then anger
- Even anger against God

Sometimes I hear people say things like...

- I just don't feel connected to God.
- I feel like there's something missing.
- I feel like my prayers aren't being heard.
- I feel so alone.
- I'm beginning to doubt
- I'm angry at God.
- And when they are angry at God, they are usually angry at me.
- And I'm just trying to help them get their spiritual connection corrected.

Now how many of you know there is a bill that comes at the end of the month with these things?

- I mean, you miss paying for this and your signal get's cut off doesn't it.
- No more phone calls
- Text messages
- Banking
- Tracking your dog
- Checking the weather....
- Nothing
- You are left with a flashlight and a camera.
- That's it.
- That's right, you have to manage your account if you want that signal don't you?

Can I ask a question...

- Why should we think it any different when it comes to our connection to God?

2 sources I checked said that the average user touches their cell phone over 2,000 times per day.

So let me ask you a question.

- How many times per day do we touch God?
- How many times per day do we handle Him or even pick Him up so to speak to utilize our connection with Him?
- 150 times per day?

- Every six minutes?
- Every sixty minutes?
- Six hours?
- Sixty hours?
- 6 days?
- Is Sunday the only day that try to connect to God?

See, we wonder sometimes why it feels like something's missing in our lives

- And that our spiritual needs aren't being met
- And feel like we are not connected to God
- And we are all alone
- And we get mad at the people around us for almost no reason at all.
- And we are losing hope
- And we are feeling empty
- And we are giving up
- God, where you at?
- God, your Word doesn't work!
- God, your promises fall short!

We touch these things over 2000 times per day,

- but don't crack open the Good Book all week long.
- And yet, we think the signal should just be ready any old time we need it to be.

We check the apps on these things 150 times per day

- And rarely touch the applications that God has prepared for our spiritual growth.
- No time for prayer
- No desire to worship
- No hunger for the Spirit's infilling

It's a lost signal.

- And no one's told us that you can't let that signal go down in our lives.

But listen folks, “You can’t let that signal go down.”

- If you’re feeling like your connection with God is down, it’s time to reconnect.
- It’s time to get your heart right with God

Don’t let the enemy of your soul keep you from God’s presence.

- Don’t let him talk you out of coming to church.
- Or praying on a daily basis
- Or reading your Bible for yourself.
- Or being a part of the Christian fellowship that happens around here.
- Or worshipping Him even when you are all alone.

Stop holding Him at a distance in your life and start making Him a priority.

- Put Him first.
- In every area of your life.
- **Proverbs 3:6 King James Version (KJV) ⁶In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.**
- Before you reach for your cell phone in the morning reach out to Him.
- “Lord, I need your help today.”
- “Jesus, let my witness please you and add value to someone else’s life today.”
- “Lord, Give me strength to face what I have to face today.”

Before we go to sleep at night, our phone shouldn’t be the last thing we check.

Our connection with God should be the last thing we check.

- “Now I lay me down to sleep.
I pray the Lord my soul to keep.
If I should die before I wake,
I pray to God my soul to take.”
- Check “that” signal.
- Make sure it’s still up

Psalm 63 King James Version (KJV)

63 O God, thou art my God; early will I seek thee: my soul thirsteth for thee, my flesh longeth for thee in a dry and thirsty land, where no water is;

² To see thy power and thy glory, so as I have seen thee in the sanctuary.

³ Because thy lovingkindness is better than life, my lips shall praise thee.

⁴ Thus will I bless thee while I live: I will lift up my hands in thy name.

⁵ My soul shall be satisfied as with marrow and fatness; and my mouth shall praise thee with joyful lips:

⁶ When I remember thee upon my bed, and meditate on thee in the night watches.

⁷ Because thou hast been my help, therefore in the shadow of thy wings will I rejoice.

“The shadow of thy wings!”

- Other words, there’s a connection there all the time.
- I’m staying under His shadow today.
- You’ve got to stay pretty close to someone to stay in their shadow.
- But that’s the kind of connection God wants to have with you today and every day.

Psalm 27:4 King James Version (KJV)

⁴ One thing have I desired of the Lord, that will I seek after; that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life, to behold the beauty of the Lord, and to enquire in his temple.

- David wasn’t checking Facebook all day long, he was enquiring in the Temple of God.
- “One thing” David said, “have I desired of the Lord.”
- He wasn’t going to lose his signal.
- He wasn’t going to lose his connection with the throne.

It’s no fun when you feel like God doesn’t care.

- Life is a bummer when you can't feel his Presence.
- Problems are a lot harder when you can't hear His voice.
- Sickness and trouble and the stuff of this life are overwhelming when you can't feel Him.

But listen, you don't have to live your life that away.

Jesus said [Revelation 3:20](#) Behold, I stand at the door, and knock: if any man hear my voice, and open the door, I will come in to him, and will sup with him, and he with me.

If you're feeling disconnected from God, get away from all the distractions and find some time to spend with Him.

- Open the door to Jesus in your life.
- He's knocking!
- He's trying to get the connection fixed.

Let me ask an honest question, when was the last time you really spent some quality time in prayer with Him?

- I mean the kind of prayer where you pour our heart out.
- Where you feel His presence and His anointing come over your life.
- Where tears begin to flow and you don't even care.
- Where you connect at a level you've never connected before.
- Where you touch Him and He touches you.

Altar call.