The Power of Church #SermonChurch The Power of Community Part 2 Mark Jackson - March 11, 2018

Romans 12:5b ...Christ makes us one body and individuals who are **connected to each other**. (GW)

The Bridge Church Slogan: CONNECTING WITH GOD AND PEOPLE

The Benefits of Being Connected to a Church

1. IT PROVIDES THE LOVE I NEED

That's why the church is called a **FAMILY**

1 Peter 3:8 ...You should be like **one big happy family**, full of sympathy toward each other, **loving one another** with tender hearts and humble minds. (LB)

Romans 12:10 Love each other like brothers and sisters. (NCV)

2. IT PROVIDES THE <u>PROTECTION I NEED</u>

That's why the church is called a **FLOCK**

Psalm 100:3 God made us, and we belong to him; we are his people, we are his **flock**. (TEV)

1 Peter 5:2 Take care of God's flock, His people... Watch over them... (ICB)

3. IT PROVIDES THE GROWTH I NEED

That's why the church is called a **BODY**

Ephesians 4:25b In Christ's body we're all connected to each other... (MSG)

Romans 12:4-6 Just as each of us has one body with many members, and these members do not all have the same function, ⁵ so in Christ we who are many form one body, and each member belongs to all the others. ⁶ We have different gifts, according to the grace given us... (NIV)

Colossians 2:19 For we are **joined together** in his **body** by his strong sinews, and **we grow** only as we get our nourishment and strength from God. (NLT)

Ephesians 4:15-16 If we live by the truth and in love, we shall **grow completely** into Christ, who is the head ¹⁶ by whom the whole **Body** is fitted and joined together, every joint adding its own strength, for each individual part to work according to its function. So **the body grows** until it has built itself up in love. (NJB)

4. IT PROVIDES THE <u>SUPPORT I NEED</u>

That's why the church is called a **HOUSE**

Ephesians 2:20-22 We are his house, built on the foundation of the apostles and the prophets. And the cornerstone is Christ Jesus himself. ²¹ We who believe are carefully **joined together**, becoming a holy temple for the Lord. ²² Through him you Gentiles are also **joined together** as part of this **dwelling** where God lives by his Spirit. (NLT)

How can I get connected to The Bridge Church?

2 Corinthians 8:5 First they <u>gave themselves to the Lord</u>; and then, by God's will they <u>gave themselves to us</u> as well. (TEV)