



Disconnected?

>>> THE RECONNECTION THRESHOLD<<<

It's been a long journey – where do you find yourself as you consider the rest of the journey?

- Looking for the best connection?*
- At a threshold moment?*
- Crossing the threshold?*

If you are one of these or something else, you will find this section useful – if not, you know where to throw the apple!

THE RECONNECTING GOD – consider how negative or positive you feel about the following on a sliding scale 1 – 10

1 = Very negative 5 = Neutral 10 = Very Positive

What we know of God from His Word, the Bible	Score 1-10
<i>God's heart towards you is that of a loving Father</i>	
<i>He sent his Son Jesus on a mission to find you</i>	
<i>Jesus is the Good Shepherd who goes out into the darkness with a light to find even one lost sheep</i>	

<i>At the cross, Jesus died so you could be forgiven for all your sin – past, present and future</i>	
<i>God is for you, not against you – Paul said ‘God justifies you so who can condemn you’?</i>	
<i>Jesus loves the honest sinner who turns to him and he speaks up for them</i>	
<i>Peter was fully restored by Jesus after his three-time denial</i> <i>Thomas was forgiven for his doubts – Jesus helps those who struggle to believe</i> <i>The Holy Spirit comes to comfort, strengthen, teach and lead us back into relationship with God</i> <i>There’s nothing you can do to make God love you more and nothing you can do to make him love you less</i>	
Total	
10 – 20:	You may feel in a distant land but remember that God deeply loves the prodigal. You may not yet be ready to cross the threshold and return to your Father, but he’s looking for you and missing you. Perhaps the rest of this app will help you come to a realisation that it’s truly time to lay down your hurts, doubts and wrongs – there’s so much to be restored to you.
21 – 60:	These reminders of God’s love for you bring comfort and reassurance. The best advice is to continue to be open to God’s healing – as he pours his blessings into you, let them lift you to the threshold of reconnection. This is a time to realise that there’s far more to your life than what you have settled for – swap pigswill and rags for your proper inheritance in Christ.
61 – 100:	You seem to be very open to the reconnecting God and have heard his voice that is calling you back to the blessing of renewed relationship as his child. It’s probably worth going through the rest of this app but if you are ready to cross the threshold, then take a short cut and jump to the video and prayer – why wait?! http://connect4life.org.uk/reconnected/reconnected-introduction

“Everything that occurs in your life is part of God’s plan to wake you up” – Leonard Jacobson, Contemporary on-line Philosopher

**Does God have your full attention?
In what ways does he try to get it?!**

"It has done me good to be somewhat parched by the heat and drenched by the rain of life" – **Henry Wadsworth Longfellow, American Poet (born 1807)**

Can you think of difficulties that pushed you away from God? And of those that have pulled you to him?

"Love me when I least deserve it, because that's when I really need it"
– **Sri Guru Granth Sahib Ji, Indian Guru (b. in 1666)**

How does it feel knowing that God loves you this way? How do you feel towards God right now?

"Do not pray for an easy life, pray for the strength to endure a difficult one" – **Bruce Lee, Hong Kong Martial Artist and Actor (b. 1940)**

**Why does a Christian still have trials in life?
Can you see the link to perseverance,
character and hope?**

"Sometimes the wrong choices bring us to the right places"
– **Anonymous**

Can you think of painful routes to the right places? Are you in a painful place and ready for a right choice?

"The tragedy of life is not so much what men suffer, but rather what they miss" – **Thomas Carlyle, Scottish Philosopher (b. 1795)**

Have you been able to find some good come from your greatest tragedy? What might you have missed?

"The universe is like a safe to which there is a combination. But the combination is locked up in the safe"
– **Peter De Vries, American Novelist (b. 1910)**

Do you think life would be easier or harder if there was a known formula to understand life? Is there one?!

“Ever since the dawn of civilization, people have not been content to see event as unconnected and inexplicable. They have craved an understanding of the underlying order of the world. Today we still yearn to know why we are here and where we came from”

– ‘A brief history of time’, Stephen Hawking, English Physicist (b. 1942)

Why do people look for little and big connections but still miss them? Do you get them, most of the time?!

“... we are the only intelligent civilisation in the galaxy, that makes us indescribably precious and valuable. We are the only island of meaning in an infinite sea of stars and that confers a responsibility to survive and explore the stars” – Professor Brian Cox, English Physicist (b. 1968)

How can such an insight be made without God in the equation, somewhere? Why do we so easily miss him?

“For me, the life of Jesus Christ, the Prince of Peace, whose birth we celebrate today, is an inspiration and an anchor in my life. A role model of reconciliation and forgiveness, he stretched out his hands in love, acceptance and healing”

– ‘Christmas Day Speech 2014’, Queen Elizabeth II, (b. 1926)

Does it surprise you that the Queen is such a role model, but her example is Jesus Christ? How about you?

THE RECONNECTION THRESHOLD - Where are you?

Consider how negative or positive you feel about the following on a sliding scale 1 – 10. 1 = Very negative 5 = neutral 10 = Very Positive

KNOWING WHERE YOU STAND ON GOD'S GIFT OF GRACE	Score 1-10
<i>God called out to Adam in the same way He calls out to us – 'Where are you?'</i>	
<i>We suffer when we go our own way, but God sets things in motion for us to find his grace</i>	
<i>There is much rejoicing in heaven when someone who has been lost is found</i>	
<i>God's grace is sufficient – it matches the need exactly, no more no less</i>	
<i>There is no time interval that can prevent the receiving of grace or 'size' of sin that cannot be forgiven</i>	
<i>God longs to be reconnected with every one of his children who feel disconnected</i>	
<p><i>The measure of God's love for you is vast and can best be understood in bread and wine</i></p> <p><i>You are invited to commune with God one to one by Jesus, our mediator who ensures nothing can stop you</i></p> <p><i>Jesus describes himself as a gateway – the door is open for you to enter but the choice is always yours</i></p> <p><i>You do not have to carry burdens, disappointments and shame – Jesus wants to take them and renew you</i></p>	
Total	

10 – 20:	Have you ever really understood the extent of God’s grace? It is limitless, without boundary and it can only be received by those who know they’ve done nothing to deserve it. The moment we think we’ve earned it in any way, we’ve missed the whole point of grace. It comes to a person at their weakness point and in their greatest need.
21 – 70:	There are three main obstacles to crossing the ‘Reconnection Threshold’ – thinking in the world’s patterns, our own ‘self’ which is described as the ‘fleshly nature’, and the Devil who is a powerful enemy of returning children of God. If you truly want to cross the threshold, bring all those obstacles to the cross of Christ and find your release.
71 – 100:	You face the same obstacles as for those scoring themselves 21-70 – although these seek to block your way, you seem to grasp the fact of God’s mighty grace. You need to grasp the hand that is offered to you to be sure of being carried over the threshold. Remember the shortcut – if you are ready to take grace on board, go for it! http://connect4life.org.uk/reconnected/reconnected-introduction

“I’ve had enough mystery. Keep building it up, then shooting me down ... but I’m already down” – ‘In between Dreams’, Jack Johnson, American Singer-songwriter (b. 1975)

Why do you think God keeps some things mysterious to us? Do you trust God with the unknown?

*“You know, my faith is one that admits some doubt”
– Barack Obama, American President (b. 1961)*

Can you see a creative tension between doubt and faith? If there no doubts, would you need faith?

*“I would never die for my beliefs because I might be wrong”
– Bertrand Russell, Welsh Philosopher (b. 1872)*

Why have so many Christians been willing to die for their faith? Does faith have more substance than hope?

"If one has the answers to all the questions - that is the proof that God is not with him. It means that he is a false prophet using religion for himself. The great leaders of the people of God, like Moses, have always left room for doubt. You must leave room for the Lord, not for our certainties; we must be humble" – **Pope Francis, (b. in Argentina 1936)**

Are you able to leave space for the Lord to restore spiritual health? Can he deal with your doubts?

"The art of living is more like wrestling than dancing"
– **Marcus Aurelius, Roman Emperor (b. 121 AD)**

Does it ever feel like you're wrestling with God? Why do we opt to wrestle more often than to dance?

"I have an increasing sense that the most important crisis of our time is spiritual and that we need places where people can grow stronger in the spirit and be able to integrate the emotional struggles in their spiritual journeys" – **Henri Nouwen, Dutch Psychologist (b. 1932)**

Is your greatest struggle with emotion, mystery or reality? What is the solution to struggling?

"Religion has the right to express its opinion in the service of the people, but God in creation has set us free: it is not possible to interfere spiritually in the life of a person" – **Pope Francis, (b. in Argentina 1936)**

Have you suffered spiritually through others? Is so, have you recovered and been able to forgive?

"Hope is a waking dream" – **Aristotle, Greek Philosopher (b. 384 BC)**

Do you have hope-filled dreams? What are your hopes?

"Serenity of spirit and turbulence of action should make up the sum of a man's life" – **Vita Sackville-West, English Author (b. 1892)**

**Do you agree with any of this statement?
What do you think a hope-full life look like?**

"The more man meditates upon good thoughts, the better will be his world and the world at large"

– **Confucius, Chinese Philosopher (b. 551 BC)**

**Do you tend to harbour dark thoughts or dwell
on good thoughts? What's the current balance?**

"The blame is his who chooses: God is blameless"

– **Plato, Greek Philosopher (b. 427 BC)**

**How highly do you value your freedom of
choice? What choices are facing you at present?**

"I know it's been a little while since we talked ... Oh God can we win back what we've lost ...Oh God can you tell us when it's going to start ..."

– **Jamie Callum, English Singer-songwriter (b. 1979)**

**What might God's reaction be when we resume
talking with him? Are you on speaking terms
currently?**

"Though no one can go back and make a brand new start, anyone can start from now and make a brand new ending"

– **Carl Bard, Scottish Philosopher (b. 1907)**

**Are you ready to make a new start?
What kind of ending are you hoping for?!**

"Forget the past ... There is no such thing as part freedom"

– **Nelson Mandela, South African President (b. 1918)**

**Do you find it hard to forget the past?
If you don't, will you ever be truly free?**

"It does not matter how slowly you go as long as you do not stop"
 – Confucius, Chinese Philosopher (b. 551 BC)

Do you remember crossing the finish line of a race? Did you ever feel like giving up beforehand?

*"I have come one step away from everything.
 And here I stay, far from everything, one step away"*
 – Antonio Porchia, Argentinian Poet (b. 1885)

How far away from the 'Reconnection Threshold' are you? Does it seem a big or little step away?

RECONNECTION – CROSSING THE THRESHOLD!

Give yourself a score of 1 – 10 where 10 is highest positive reaction

GOD'S INHERITANCE PROMISED TO EVERYONE WHO ACCEPTS HIS INVITATION TO RECONNECT	Score 1-10
<i>God himself will be with you and will be your God. He will wipe every tear from your eyes</i>	
<i>There will be no more mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away</i>	
<i>He will give to drink without cost from the spring of the water of life – you'll never be thirsty again!</i>	
<i>He will gladly accept you and call his child – he has a wonderful inheritance for each of his children</i>	
<i>He sings over you songs of love and acceptance – here's a father to really enjoy life with, every day</i>	
<i>God gives you a new identity and a new name that he will share with you in time!</i>	
<i>All of your failures, hurts, wrong-doings and shame are forgiven and forgotten, forever, through Christ</i> <i>God takes joy in you and declares that you are a new creation, precious to him and safe with him</i> <i>He will help you become like Jesus, to become mature and he will strengthen you by his Holy Spirit</i>	

*God will completely renew your IVP and SHM!**
You will lack for nothing, from now and through eternity!

* IVP = Identity, Value and Purpose;
SHM = Security, Happiness and Motivation

Total

10 – 15: Mmm! You still seem a bit unsure that God loves you and accepts you no matter where you've been or what you've done. Let's see, take a careful look left, right and behind you ... have you got a better alternative?! If anything or anyone is standing in your way or blocking your view, what or who might that be? Don't accept it!

16 – 50: Happy days are coming! It's all a matter of pressing through – don't let anything or anyone get in the way of God's plans to bless you and restore you. Maybe take a little more time to let the impact of God's grace sink in – try Alpha (<http://www.alpha.org/try>) and Christianity Explored (<http://www.christianityexplored.org/course/find>)

51 – 100: You seem to be getting it! It's a 'hands-held-out-wide' moment so don't let anything stop you further – forget the next text, email, knock at the door or other interruption ... you know where they come from! This is your time, so take it – you'll discover there are no regrets to crossing over, but many for those who do not!

<http://connect4life.org.uk/reconnected/reconnected-introduction>

"God is, even though the whole world deny him.

Truth stands, even if there be no public support. It is self-sustained"

– Mahatma Gandhi, Indian Leader and Philosopher (b. 1869)

What does Jesus mean when he says he is the Truth? Why is it that so few recognise or find the doorway?

"Life can be easy, it is only question of choosing between solutions and illusions" – Didier D'haese, Contemporary Belgian Blogger

How can Jesus be the gate but also stand at the door and knock? Have you heard him knocking?

"Our search should not be a flight from life"

– TKV Desikachar, Indian Mystic (b. 1938)

Why do we often withdraw when we are hurt? Imagine what might happen if you open this door!

*"I ain't gonna face no defeat, I just gotta get out of this prison cell
Someday I'm gonna be free, Lord ... Somebody, somebody,
somebody find me*

*Somebody find me someone to love, Can anybody find me
somebody to love?*

Find me somebody, somebody, somebody to love"

– Queen, Rock Band with Freddie Mercury (b. 1946)

Did you ever wonder why God loves you so much? Why would anyone not choose to walk free?

*"I have found the paradox, that if you love until it hurts,
there can be no more hurt, only more love"*

– Mother Teresa, Missionary of Charity (b. in Macedonia 1910)

**Have you experienced the love of God?
Do you know he is calling you back to intimacy
with him?**

*"I am the gate; whoever enters through me will be saved. They will come
in and go out, and find pasture. The thief comes only to steal and kill and
destroy; I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full."*

– John 10 v 9 – 10

**Don't miss out on God's best for your life
– it truly doesn't get better than this!**

THE FINAL VISIT FOR RECONNECTION - <http://connect4life.org.uk/reconnected/reconnected-introduction>

Stories from others who've made the connection - <http://iamredemption.org/stories>