



Connections that bless

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On a recent Sunday afternoon, my husband and I were at our town's small boat ramp. We had just launched our fishing boat and were ready to enjoy the lake in the closing days of summer. But as my husband tried to start the engine, nothing happened. The battery was dead.

For various reasons, it looked as if nothing short of a long process or canceling the outing would solve this problem. But wait! Earlier that afternoon, I had shared ideas with someone about our relation to God—our creator—and to each other. Remembering that, I took a quiet moment to rejoice that we already included the blessings of one Mind, God, governing all its spiritual ideas—all of us.

At that moment, a man we didn't know came up to us. He happened to have jumper cables and an extra battery, which he offered to use to help us get our boat started. Within a few minutes, our boat was running and we were on our way. Later, on our return, another fellow offered his help in getting us docked. We in turn noted that another boater was having trouble with his motor. My husband realized what the issue was and helped him fix it.

On that Sunday afternoon this series of mutually beneficial connections, with people who were strangers to one another, was a marvel to behold! Just at the moment there was a need, there was an interaction full of blessings to meet the need.

This beautiful harmony exemplified on that little dock that afternoon was modest in scale. It hints, though, at the larger, universal harmony in which all of God's spiritual ideas are moving in the rhythm of divine Soul's symphonic design, relating one to another with divine Love's

infinite blessings.

Today, there are so many different ways to relate to each other. Cell phones, email, and social media sites like Twitter and Instagram are all designed to connect us with our friends, our business associates, the world. These various ways of connection are useful in our everyday lives, but have you ever thought about incredible connections being made without any electronic messaging or chance?

For instance, a man was in a city, and he received a surprising message. The Bible describes it as an angel that spoke to him. The message instructed him to take the road out of town heading south. Not knowing why, but faithful in heeding what he perceived to be a kind of spiritual guidance, he did just that. When he reached a specific location in the road, another thought came to him that instructed him to focus on a chariot up ahead and approach that particular chariot. As he got close to it, he heard the man in the chariot reading Scripture out loud.

It turned out the man in the chariot was what we might refer to today as the treasurer of Ethiopia. Approaching him was Philip, a follower of Christ Jesus. Philip asked the man if he understood what he was reading. The treasurer answered that he did not, and asked Philip if he could help him understand the message. Philip did so and not only shared the message of Christ, but, responding to the treasurer's request, also baptized him soon after (see [Acts 8:26–38](#)).

And so the treasurer, with his pure desire to understand Scripture, and Philip, in doing the good work of spreading Christianity to the receptive heart, were brought together in just the right way to bless and be blessed.

How many times have we sought relationships in which we could be of benefit to another or in which we could be benefited? All too often it seems that such connections can only be made either through an elaborate strategy or almost at random. And sometimes we never really connect with just the right one. How do we find the right marriage partner, the right friends, the right employer, the right customer or supplier, or even the right plumber?

It *seems* like we're looking for just the right person. But are we? The Bible says that "God is no respecter of persons" ([Acts 10:34](#)). He knows us only as His spiritual, whole creation. Within that spiritual reality of our common relation to God, Mind, as His purely spiritual ideas, we are forever related to each other as expressions of that one Mind. As we come to better understand this, we find more and more that our human experience reflects this reality in what appears to us as improved, productive connections with others.

Divine Mind, Principle, does all the relating and associating of its ideas. We could liken it to the principle of mathematics and its infinite numbers. The numbers don't have to figure out how to relate to each other, because the principle of mathematics does all the relating through its laws of addition, subtraction, calculus, geometry, etc. This relating of numbers is infinite in scope and forever established. The principle of mathematics doesn't know the pencil and paper we might be using to solve a problem, but our understanding of the mathematical principle guides our hand in putting down the correct numbers.

This helps me see how God, Principle, relates all His infinite ideas according to divine Soul's design. Each idea expresses the wisdom of Mind and the joy of Spirit. Understanding that divine Principle is universal, and that all its ideas are one with that Principle, we see that all true relations, being spiritual, are in harmony with one another and already in place, now and forever.

It's not that God knows about our human circumstances, but that through prayer we come to better see our oneness with Principle, divine Mind. This cultivates our inherent spiritual intuition, which guides us to human relationships that bless, just as it did with Philip.

Mary Baker Eddy writes: "Spirit, God, gathers unformed thoughts into their proper channels, and unfolds these thoughts, even as He opens the petals of a holy purpose in order that the purpose may appear" (*Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures*, [p. 506](#)). So, instead of perhaps feeling helpless seeking relationships somewhere "out there" in the world, we can embrace the spiritual truth that God, Spirit, gathers His ideas together according to His divine purpose.

In contrast, worldly thought would say that our connections with one another are largely based on chance, or that circumstance, social status, education, location, or age can prevent beneficial associations. But the spiritual reality is that nothing can usurp, delay, hinder, or prevent God's harmoniously governing the relations of His ideas with Him and with one another. Nothing can obstruct that which God ordains and sustains. Since He is omnipotent and omnipresent, there is nothing to stop or delay His harmonious action.

An understanding of this divine law enables us to demonstrate it, in some degree, in our experience. Then, we see our day-to-day connections patterning this divine truth.

As I have cherished these ideas, there have been numerous illustrations of this. Once, when I was a stay-at-home mom, it became evident that I needed a job immediately in order to meet my financial obligations. I opened the yellow pages and found an overwhelming number of companies in some way related to my field. Seeking further direction, I humbly listened for divine inspiration, and felt clearly directed to call just one particular company.

Although they said they were not looking for anyone with my qualifications, they invited me to come in the next day to show them my portfolio. An amazing thing happened. Two hours before my interview, a restructuring went into effect within that company that, in essence, created a new position ideal for someone with my background and talents. I was offered the job on the spot and began work that very day! That same week, I received my first paycheck, along with a bonus for working that first day. It was a perfect connection, with blessings all around.

Daily embracing the fact that all true relationships are really spiritual and God-directed, not mortal happenstance, opens up boundless blessings. It guides us in our day-to-day comings and goings—whether we need a taxi driver in the middle of nowhere, a buyer for a house, or someone to help jump-start our vehicle. Such happy connections point to the unity and harmony of all God's children, who are not isolated, but related in joyous union and blessing, evidencing the wisdom, love, and goodness of God and all of His ideas.

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