Date: 1/7/17

Title: Stay Connected to Jesus

Theme: Only when we stay connected to Jesus can we lift others up and bring them to Him.

Object: Magnet and nails (6).

Text: John 15:5 (NKJV) “I am the vine, you are the branches. He who abides in Me, and I in him, bears much fruit; for without Me you can do nothing.”

This is an important verse because it tells us that Jesus is really important in our lives.

He says, “without me you can do nothing.”

And some might look at that and say, “What do you mean? I can do all kinds of things without Jesus.

I can wake up in the morning and get dressed without Jesus. I can eat my breakfast and brush my teeth without Jesus. I can go to school and learn my math and spelling without Jesus. And it’s true.

Lots of people live their whole lives without Jesus and they do all kinds of things.

So let’s try to understand what Jesus is really saying here.

This verse is talking about bearing fruit for God’s kingdom: He who abides in Me and I in him, bears much fruit; for without me you can do nothing [to bear fruit].

Bearing fruit for God’s kingdom is telling others about Jesus and helping them to love Jesus and accept Him.

And what Jesus is saying here is that if you don’t have a connection with Jesus, if you don’t love Him and stay connected to Him, you won’t be able to help anybody else to come to love Jesus.

If **you’re** not connected to Jesus, you can’t help anyone else to be connected to Jesus. Does that make sense?

Now I have here two nails. And we’re going to pretend that this is you and your best friend.

And let’s say that neither of you are connected to Jesus.

If you don’t have a connection to Jesus, you’re not even going to tell your friend how important it is to have Jesus as your Savior and Friend.

So you have no power to lift up your friend and bring her to Jesus. You bear no fruit for God’s kingdom.

Your friend just lays there and doesn’t care about Jesus.

Now let’s pretend this magnet is Jesus.

And you have learned that you need Jesus to be your Savior and forgive your sins and give you eternal life.

And let’s say you’ve trusted in Jesus and asked Him to forgive your sins and be your Savior and Lord.

So now you have a connection with Jesus. [Connect nail to magnet]

And you think it’s really cool to be able to pray to Him any time at all, and ask Him to help you to obey His commandments and live a happy and successful life.

Now, do you think you have the power to lift your friend up and bring her to Jesus? Let’s see!

Yes! You now have the power to bring your friend to Jesus and have a connection with Him.

Maybe there’s another friend at school that needs to know Jesus.

You can lift others up to know Jesus if you stay connected to Him. [connect all the nails you can]

Would you like to lift others up and help them to find a connection with Jesus?

Then let’s stay connected to Jesus, what do you say?

Let’s ask Him to help us right now.