



WEEK SEVEN: Connected – Study Guide

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We have been learning in the last six weeks about how to let go of sin in our lives so we can grow in our relationship with God and others. As we go through this final study of *Unstuck*, we will take a look at how to remain connected to God, and how to avoid becoming stagnant and fall back into those same patterns that we talked about needing to let go of during this series.

Where Am I Today?

- 1) During this series, how has your commitment level changed when it comes to allowing God to work in the areas of your life that you've needed to change?

Into the Bible

- 2) It's easy to get comfortable and think we can handle our "eighth slice" on our own strength. When we do this, we can start becoming complacent and stop relying on God's transforming power in our lives. Read **Revelation 3:14-18**. What is Jesus' admonition to the church in Laodicea? What can we learn about complacency and comfort in these verses?

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- 3) God wants an active relationship with us. He desires for us to walk with Him daily. When we walk daily with Him, it will keep us from relapsing into our old ways, or from becoming comfortable with what we've already accomplished. Read **John 15:1-11**. What does abiding in Christ mean to you? What word picture does one of the beginning verses give you that would indicate that being a Jesus follower is not pain-free?
- 4) There are many ways we can stay connected and keep growing. One of the ways we haven't looked at yet is through meditating on God's Word. Read **Joshua 1:8**, **Psalm 1:1-2**, and **Psalm 119:97**. What are these verses telling us to do? How might this look different for us as Jesus followers today than it did in Old Testament times?

How Does This Apply

- 5) Just like the church in Laodicea, it's easy to rely on what we already have and become complacent. Complacency creeps in when we start to become okay with areas of sin in our lives that we know we need to change. God wants us to become fully dependent on Him in all areas of our lives. What may be an area, or areas, in your life that you have simply become complacent in, or possibly tolerate, instead of completely letting go?

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- 6) We all have different methods that we use to stay connected to Christ. It's not the methods that really matter, but the reality of staying connected to Him that's important. One of those things we discussed was meditating on God and His word. How are you intentionally staying connected to Christ daily? What is your next step in this area?

- 7) Looking back over these last seven weeks, there are many things that we have hopefully learned, not only about ourselves, but also about God and others. What are some things that you learned during this series that are changing the way you live today? What specific steps have you taken to avoid becoming complacent or comfortable with where you are?

Continue Learning on Your Own

All of us, at some point, struggle with trying to control our own lives and taking care of our own problems. Often that leaves us with a sense of worry about the present and future. When we worry, we focus on our circumstances instead of God. You could say that worry is constantly, negatively meditating on things we can't control.

- 8) If you struggle with worry, Paul has some great instructions for us in Philippians. Read **Philippians 4:4-7**. What does Paul tell us to do when we begin to worry? What promise does he give us?