

Dear Friends,

Earlier this week my phone line was changed to a digital line, and the internet provision was altered. As far as these things go, I think everything was pretty much straightforward until it was left to me to sort out the Wi-Fi extender mesh system at which point things went less well. I was very grateful to be bailed out later in the week by a friend who knew about such things! My initial concern was whether I could still do the Zoom Bible Study. This wasn't a problem as I was so close to the router, but to lose the connection in something I was leading wouldn't have been good.

I realise there are those who manage without the internet and others who would prefer for it not to be part of their lives. However, I think we'd all agree that the internet is here to stay and our reliance on it is growing ever greater (whether we like it or not). To be connected to the internet is reliant on wireless technology and other people with appropriate knowledge and expertise. If the internet goes down, then the world would stop.

We can imagine what that might feel like from a practical point of view, but we also know that we will never be left completely alone. God, who draws close to us in Jesus through the Holy Spirit, will never be disconnected from us. He will always keep the channels of communication open. We don't need wires, or wireless technology to connect with God. We only need to come into God's presence, allow the Holy Spirit to work within us for us to be truly connected as Christ's disciples. This should bring us great comfort. We don't need to be reliant on anyone else. We are offered a 24/7 invitation to be connected to God.

We can draw close to God at any time in prayer. We may pray as we are sitting at home looking out of the window, as we go out for a walk, sit in church or wherever we find ourselves. We may choose to focus ourselves through the use of a candle or we might suddenly see something whilst we're out and pray a very quick 'arrow' prayer for a particular need. Wherever we find ourselves, or whatever we need to talk to God about, we can do so because the connection is always open. It is totally dependable and reliable. We can, and should, rejoice!

As we're going about our daily lives over the coming weeks and months, let's give thanks to God for all that Jesus has done for us and that the Holy Spirit enables us to talk to God about anything. Wherever we are and whatever we're facing the connection with God is there.

God bless,
Chris