

HELEN SANDERS
7-14-2020
CONNECT THE DOTS

When I was a young girl my sister bought me a “treasure box.” It was full of fun activities such as coloring books, and paints and crayons. There were also some games and puzzles. One of the things I enjoyed most were the dot to dot puzzles. You probably have done them yourself. Each of the pictures would have dots with numbers next to them and you would take a pencil or crayon and connect the dots in the sequence of the numbers. You couldn’t tell what it was going to be because there was no “picture” to follow. You simply had to connect the dots. It was challenging for a young girl, but when it was finished, suddenly a picture came together. I would then color it or just share it with my sister. I enjoyed the challenge.

Sometimes the bible is like a dot to dot puzzle. I remember asking a preacher once how to win an unsaved loved one to the Lord. I had been saved a number of years but had never been taught anything about the Bible or how to find things. The answer this person gave me could have caused me to never learn. He said, “Get in the Word, Get in the Word.” He had just finished preaching at a conference I had been invited to which I had enjoyed. His answer was like a slap in the face. I had no idea where to start “in the word.” You see, the “dots” had no numbers and I wasn’t an artist. I needed help to find the answers.

Most Christians have never been taught how to study the bible. Perhaps they have been given a bible and started with Genesis to read and when they got to Leviticus they were turned off. You see, there must be guidance if we are to connect the dots. Fortunately, I was determined to know more, and found someone that took the time to show me.

I bought a few “tools.” One was a Strong’s Concordance, and another was a Vine’s Dictionary. It helped me understand archaic words and put them into perspective. Then I found a good study bible that opened my understanding.

God doesn’t want us to be in the dark, not knowing how to “connect the dots.” God gave the Church five gifts: Pastors, Teachers, Evangelists, Apostles and Prophets. They were given to the church to be the “dot connectors” and as such, to show the way to “connect the dots,” so we are not in the dark. Many denominations don’t even believe in all five of these gifts that have been given to the church (Ephesians 4:11). So, it is no wonder that the church limps along wondering what “dot” to connect next and hoping to “put the picture together.”

Has anybody helped you “connect the dots?” That is the purpose of these newsletters and our ministry. We hope to equip you so that you won’t be in the dark. If you have questions, email us at: spiritoflifeministriesintl@gmail.com