

# 24hr wireless connection

**Christ**

**Draw near to God and he will draw near to you** James 4:8

Sometimes our connection to the internet is better than it is to people or to God. We can get massive amounts of information at our disposal but we can't quite figure out what's going on in our homes. We can email people on the other side of the world yet we struggle to voice what we're feeling to those who are closest to us. We can order a rug from South America to our door but we can't get through the door that's closed in our face by those we love most. We can find the meaning of words in a split second but are stuck when it comes to finding true meaning in our lives.

Connection (not the internet type) is actually what the meaning of life is all about. Another word for it is relationships. The Bible says that we were made for relationships with God and with other people. That's why the things that hurt us most in life are broken relationships and the things we value and enjoy most in life are loving relationships. Wouldn't it be great to have good connections with God and the people we love?

We can have these great connections and the good news is it's not restricted to those with a broadband internet connection under a 24 month contract. It's found by listening to the message of 'repentance and forgiveness that's being preached in his name to all nations' (Luke 24:47).

The name in that sentence is Jesus and the message is about repentance and forgiveness. Repentance means admitting you've done wrong and changing your attitude and way of life. This is what we need to do to 'draw near' to God. He sees all our actions and would rather we faced up to them than try to excuse or hide them. Forgiveness means the absorbing of wrong without demanding payback. This is what God does when He 'draws near' us. This is what needs to happen for us to connect with God. These actions restore connections that get broken, not only with God but with other people. We each need to admit we were wrong and ask for and give forgiveness.

When we do that with God we find that he's not an angry, distant, unfeeling figure, disinterested in our daily lives. Instead, he's passionately concerned with our thoughts and actions, struggles and triumphs and is ready to forgive us, help us, comfort us and give us the guidance and meaning we desperately need.

What's the key to deep, long-lasting relationships? Repentance and forgiveness. That's the way to get connected to God, 24/7.