



**Fellowship of Companies for Christ International**  
Northeast Regional Office  
30 Lafayette Square, Suite 118 \* Vernon, CT 06066  
860-872-3190 \* Toll-free 800-JOY-9075  
Email: dcrandall@ChristAtWork.org Web: www.FCCI-NE.org

**Fellowship of Companies for Christ  
Greater Hartford Chapter  
Mitchell's Coffee House  
May 19, 2010**



- Opening prayer
- Introductions
- Praise reports
- “Popcorn” testimony

- Today’s Topic: **Knitting *constructive* relationships**

—[Judges 20:11](#) So all the men of Israel were gathered against the city, knit together as one man.

—[1 Samuel 18:1](#) And it came to pass, when he had made an end of speaking unto Saul, that the soul of Jonathan was knit with the soul of David, and Jonathan loved him as his own soul.

—[Colossians 2:2](#) That their hearts might be comforted, being knit together in love, and unto all riches of the full assurance of understanding, to the acknowledgement of the mystery of God, and of the Father, and of Christ.

—[Colossians 2:19](#) And not holding the Head, from which all the body by joints and bands having nourishment ministered, and knit together, increaseth with the increase of God.

Successful organizations and communities are often described as “tight-knit.” Sometimes being tight-knit can backfire into groupthink, legalism, stagnation and cultish tendencies. But the opposite is also true: organizations and communities where everyone is a stranger breeds anonymity, which breeds isolation and license. Somewhere in the middle, there’s a healthy, Holy Spirit-led balance!

In today’s busy, technological culture, how much time are we spending knitting—deliberately investing in—relationships? With customers, prospects, employees, suppliers, church and community? Or, do we focus on business relationships to the detriment of our families? Relationships take time, money, energy, and transparency. At times, we don’t go there, or we’ve been hurt in the past, so we avoid them.

On Mother’s Day in 1993, my Mom knew she was dying. We were having an unusually transparent discussion after dinner, while sitting around the dining room table, when she said, “*If I had to do it over again, I would have focused more on relationships.*” She had been enormously energetic, efficient and effective as a “doer,” but in assessing her life, good relationship-building had suffered in the process.

—Do you have issues with the texture of your relationships today?

—Are you growing so dependent upon “technology,” that you’re dropping the ball person-to-person?

- Next FCCI meeting here on Wednesday, June 2 @ 7:30 am
- Upcoming news/events
  - June 5: *Total Woman Conference* in Hartford (display and workshop)
  - June 7: webinar, *Dispensing with the Poverty Mindset*
  - June 10: *CT Business Expo* display—need sponsors & volunteers
- Closing prayer