

ARTICLE FOR COUNTRY GAZETTE

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It only takes one small break in a wire and the electrical connection is broken.

A painting by Michelangelo in the Sistine Chapel shows the hand of God reaching out toward a human being. Just inches away is the hand of a human reaching toward God, but unable to connect. There are so many things that keep the connection from happening, from brokenness in our closest relationships to injustice and abuse on a national and international scale. Sometimes the Holy Spirit sparks across the break with surges of power, but we need something more. Jesus Christ provides that by holding the hand of God and our hand so that the Holy Spirit flows uninterrupted to all who will connect with the circle.

Jesus is able to bridge the break because of three things.

- He gave up of self interest for the good of others
- He refused to let fear dominate his life
- He forgave those who injured him.

If we want to take hold of his hand, we must enter into his heart of love by giving up our self interest when we can help others by doing so. We can enter into his heart by rising above our fears and choosing to live by love instead. We can only hold his hand if we forgive those who harm us even as we require their accountability to what is fair and right.

Jesus took as his mission to heal the brokenhearted, to be a repairer of the breach. If your heart is with his heart, then give him your hand and join in the circle through which flows the energy of the Holy Spirit of God.