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A Parable: The Missing Parts (What Does It Take To Commune With God?)

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I saw a friend talking on a CB radio to his good buddies. I wanted to do the same. Now I did not know much about this so I went to a radio store and purchased a microphone to talk to my good buddy. With great anticipation and excitement I took the microphone home. I unwrapped the mic and pushed the mic button as my friend had and called my good buddy. To my amazement nothing happened and I wondered what was wrong.

I went back to my friend and I explained my problem. He said that I needed a CB radio to plug my mic into. Immediately off to the store I went and purchased a CB radio. I went home and plugged that mic into it and called my good buddy. To my amazement nothing happened. Off to my friend's house I went with my radio and mic. I told him that it does not work. He said, see the wiring hanging from the back of that radio? Yes, I see it. Well you have to hook up that wire to the power source before the radio and mic will work. He explained I needed a power supply to plug my radio into at home for it to work.

Boom, off I go to the store and purchase a power source. Arriving home, I plugged in the power supply, hooked up my radio and turned it on. Sure enough the radio lights came on and the radio made a hissing noise. Excited, I called my good buddy. BUT nothing happened. What is the matter? I have a mic, a radio, a power source hooked up and the radio lights up, but I cannot not talk to or receive any one. Something is wrong.

I went back to my friend's house. Explaining my problem to him, he asked one simple question. Do you have an antenna mounted on your house for the radio? What I ask? He explained that the antenna was necessary for the radio signal to get out to my good buddy and for me to receive a signal back from my good buddy. To the store I went and purchased the biggest and best home antenna they had. I installed the antenna on the house. Now I am really excited, for I am going to talk to my good buddy.

Check list--mic-okay, radio-okay, power supply-okay, antenna-okay. Lets do it. Radio on, lights on, hissing noise, key mic-xmitt light on. I yell, hey good buddy do you hear me? I wait and nothing, I called again and no reply. What is the matter, I have done all I was told to do, but no response from my good buddy. Back to my friend's house I go. Explaining all I have done, he listens, thinks and

asked this question. Do you have a coax run between the antenna and the radio to make the connection? I said a what? He very patiently explained what a coax was and what it was for. It makes the connection and carries the signal back and forth between the antenna and the radio.

As I started to blast off to the store, my friend said STOP and wait a minute. He said you could have saved yourself a lot of time on this project, if you would have only stayed around long enough to hear all of my advice at one time. Then he explained how the complete system works as a whole and any one part missing will hinder the results your are trying to achieve. Then he proceeded to draw out a diagram on how the hookups were to be and explained the operation of the system. I went to the store for the coax. Upon installing the coax, I called my good buddy, and he answered and we communicate all the time.

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