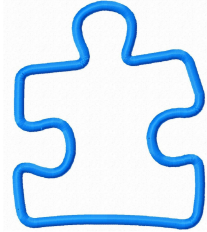


## What is Autism?

Autism is a developmental disorder that affects:

- Communication
- Learning
- Social Interaction



## What Do You Need to Know About Autism?

- It is a spectrum. People with autism may have everything from mild to severe symptoms.
- Some people with autism may be nonverbal. They are not being rude, they just do not communicate with spoken words.
- People with autism often make loud sounds.
- Some people with autism have safety issues, such as running away.
- Many people with autism have sensory issues and need a calm environment.
- You cannot judge a person with autism (or anyone else) by the way they look.

## What Can the Church Do?

- Provide a safe and welcoming environment for children with autism.
- Support and encourage parents by providing both emotional and physical assistance in stressful situations.
- Reach out to siblings who often miss out on opportunities.
- Remind each other that all people are created in the image of God and deserve to be treated with respect.

*For more information, go to*  
*[www.church-autism.blogspot.com](http://www.church-autism.blogspot.com)*  
**Hope's Reason Ministries**

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