



# Discussion Questions

Sermon Title: Foretaste: Fellowship

Date Preached: 8/24/25

Speaker: Josh Ratliff

Outline: Acts 2:42; Ephesians 4:1-6 | Foretaste: Fellowship

- ❖ **Devoting Ourselves to Fellowship (Acts 2:42)**
  - We put off our “individualized” mindset when we put on Christ.
  - Christian formation and discipleship can only flourish in Christian community.
  - **Question:** How would you assess your relationship to your church community? Where does it need to be healed or enhanced?
- ❖ **The Family of God as a Foretaste of Heaven (Eph 4:1-6)**
  - In Christ, we have been adopted into a new family with new loyalties, values, and priorities.
  - Four New Testament family values:
    - We share our stuff with one another.
    - We share our hearts with one another.
    - We stay, embrace the pain, and grow up with one another.
    - Family is about more than our own home. (Joseph Hellerman, When the Church Was a Family)
  - **Question:** How has God’s Word reframed your view of the church as a family today? What commitments will you make to reflect this New Testament vision of a family?
- ❖ **Bottom Line: Our fellowship as a redeemed family is preparing us for eternity.**

Questions for reflection or discussion:

**Acts 2:42; 1 Corinthians 10:16; 1 Corinthians 12:12-27**

- How is biblical fellowship different from casual friendships or social gatherings? What is it about biblical fellowship that can make it more challenging to engage in? What are some healthy expectations and/or boundaries to set when it comes to biblical fellowship?

**Romans 9:3; Acts 4:32; Philippians 2:2-5**

- Why do you think our culture tends to prioritize independence over community? In your walk with Christ, have you ever been tempted to or have tried to walk it alone? What resulted from that? Why is community so important within the body of Christ?

**Ephesians 4:1-6; Matthew 10:37; Matthew 12:48-50**

- What does it mean to belong to God’s alternative family? Have you ever struggled with the tension between loyalty to your natural family and loyalty to Christ and His people? What can make navigating this so difficult, especially within the context of our culture today?
- Where are you downplaying the value and importance of your church family? Are there ways you have neglected your church family that God is calling you to change? If so, how can you live more like a brother or sister to your church body this week?

**Philippians 1:3-8; Romans 12:10-13**

- Which of the New Testament family values (sharing your resources, sharing in vulnerability, carrying one another’s burdens, opening your home) do you find most challenging? What steps can you take to become more vulnerable and to share your life with the church? Is there a brother or sister within the church you see that is alone or that is in need of help? How can you reach out to them in sacrificial love this week?