

Fellowship: From A Moment To A Movement

Acts: 2:37-47 (NLT)

³⁷ Peter's words pierced their hearts, and they said to him and to the other apostles, "Brothers, what should we do?"

³⁸ Peter replied, "Each of you must repent of your sins and turn to God, and be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. Then you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.

³⁹ This promise is to you, to your children, and to those far away—all who have been called by the Lord our God."

⁴⁰ Then Peter continued preaching for a long time, strongly urging all his listeners, "Save yourselves from this crooked generation!"

⁴¹ Those who believed what Peter said were baptized and added to the church that day—about 3,000 in all.

The Believers Form a Community

⁴² All the believers devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching, and to fellowship, and to sharing in meals (including the Lord's Supper), and to prayer.

⁴³ A deep sense of awe came over them all, and the apostles performed many miraculous signs and wonders.

⁴⁴ And all the believers met together in one place and shared everything they had.

⁴⁵ They sold their property and possessions and shared the money with those in need.

⁴⁶ They worshiped together at the Temple each day, met in homes for the Lord's Supper, and shared their meals with great joy and generosity—

⁴⁷ all the while praising God and enjoying the goodwill of all the people. And each day the Lord added to their fellowship those who were being saved.

The Book of ACTS

The Book of Acts is a historical narrative that tells the story of the early Christian church's expansion throughout the Roman Empire. Through the power of the Holy

Spirit, the church became a movement, as believers boldly proclaimed the gospel, performed miracles, and endured persecution.

Despite facing opposition, the early church grew rapidly, transforming the culture and society of the Roman world. This book highlights the movement of the church spreading rapidly and powerfully throughout the ancient world, laying the foundation for the global spread of Christianity.

What does fellowship (Koinonia) mean?

Koinonia is translated as “fellowship, association, community, communion, joint participation.”

The Foundation of Fellowship

Fellowship is spiritual and originates from a personal connection with God. Gen. 3:8 (NLT)

⁸ When the cool evening breezes were blowing, the man and his wife heard the Lord God walking about in the garden. So they hid from the Lord God among the trees.

⁹ Then the Lord God called to the man, “Where are you?”

Question: How would you describe your connection with God and your participation in fellowship with Him at this moment?

God created us for fellowship. Gen. 2:18 (NLT)

¹⁸ Then the Lord God said, “It is not good for the man to be alone. I will make a helper who is just right for him

Question: How would you describe your connection with believers and your participation with them at this moment?

Fellowship with God and others depends on walking in the light. 1 Jn 1:5-10 (NLT)

⁵ This is the message we heard from Jesus and now declare to you: God is light, and there is no darkness in him at all.

⁶ So we are lying if we say we have fellowship with God but go on living in spiritual darkness; we are not practicing the truth.

⁷ But if we are living in the light, as God is in the light, then we have fellowship with each other, and the blood of Jesus, his Son, cleanses us from all sin.

⁸ If we claim we have no sin, we are only fooling ourselves and not living in the truth.

⁹ But if we confess our sins to him, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all wickedness.

¹⁰ If we claim we have not sinned, we are calling God a liar and showing that his word has no place in our hearts.

How does Fellowship go from a moment to a movement?

1) Fellowship goes from a moment to a movement when we take God's Word to heart- Acts 2:37

2) Fellowship goes from a moment to a movement when there is devotion to Learning, Love and Life-Giving Actions - Acts: 42-47(NLT)

Devoted - Its basic meaning is to stay by, to persist at, to remain with and to be loyal.

- **Devoted to Learning** - Apostles Teaching

Quote " The illiterate of the 21st century will not be those who cannot read and write, but those who cannot learn, unlearn, and relearn." - Alvin Toffler_

- **Devoted to Love** - Sharing meals, the Lord's supper and praying together.

- **Devoted to Life-Giving actions** - met together in temples and at home, shared money, shared meals, praising God, being open to more people.