

Three Sermons

- May 19: One Body, One Gathering
- May 26: What is Fellowship?
- June 2: The Family Together

1. The meaning of "fellowship"

2. The roots of fellowship

1 Corinthians 1:9

God is faithful, by whom you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

<u>1 John 1:3</u>

...our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son Jesus Christ.

2 Corinthians 13:14

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

Our Shared <u>POSITION</u> in Christ	Our Shared <u>PRACTICE</u> as Christians
brothers and sisters in Christ	interact as family
reconciled in Christ	pursue peace and unity
one in Christ	seek to have one mind
forgiven in Christ	forgive each other
one body in Christ	value and care for each body part
set apart in Christ	live set apart from the world
servants of Christ	serve each other
ambassadors of Christ	witness for Christ

1 Corinthians 10:16–17

¹⁶ The cup of blessing that we bless, is it not a <u>participation</u> in the blood of Christ? The bread that we break, is it not a <u>participation</u> in the body of Christ? ¹⁷ Because there is one bread, we who are many are one body, for we all partake of the one bread.

3. The practice of fellowship

Philippians 2:1–2

¹ So if there is any encouragement in Christ, any comfort from love, any participation in the Spirit, any affection and sympathy, ² complete my joy by being of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind.

3. The practice of fellowship

Pursue each other

Philippians 2:25

²⁵ Ephaphroditus... your messenger and minister to my need... ³⁰ he nearly died for the work of Christ, risking his life...

Philippians 4:18

I have received full payment, and more. I am well supplied, having received from Epaphroditus the gifts you sent...

Philippians 4:15

And you Philippians yourselves know that in the beginning of the gospel, when I left Macedonia, no church entered into partnership with me in giving and receiving, except you only.

3. The practice of fellowship

Pursue each other

Prefer each other

Philippians 2:3–4

³ Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves. ⁴ Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others.

Park in the south garage to make space for newcomers or those with limited mobility. We'll need 50+ more cars to park in the garage.

Come early, find a seat, and fellowship in the sanctuary so we're all in place when the service begins.

Move to the middle of the row. Leaving the ends open makes it smoother for everyone to get settled.

Help the ushers as they help everyone find a seat—especially groups, late arrivers, or those with limited mobility.

Make room (with a smile!). Yes, you might be blessed with the opportunity to move to make space for others!

Be hospitable. A warm welcome is the way of Christ. We want to welcome others as we've been welcomed by Christ!

Jump in to serve. Every member is both gifted and called to serve. As you see needs, or as we publicize needs, lean into ways you can help.

4. The bond of fellowship

Philippians 1:3–6

³ I thank my God in all my remembrance of you,
⁴ always in every prayer of mine for you all making my prayer with joy, ⁵ because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now. ⁶ And I am sure of this, that he who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ.

Philippians 1:7–8

⁷ It is right for me to feel this way about you all, because I hold you in my heart, for you are all partakers with me of grace, both in my imprisonment and in the defense and confirmation of the gospel. ⁸ For God is my witness, how I yearn for you all with the affection of Christ Jesus.

1 Peter 1:22

Having purified your souls by your obedience to the truth for a sincere brotherly love, love one another earnestly from a pure heart...

<u>John 17:20–23</u>

²⁰ "I do not ask for these only, but also for those who will believe in me through their word, ²¹ that they may all be one, just as you, Father, are in me, and I in you, that they also may be in us, so that the world may believe that you have sent me.²² The glory that you have given me I have given to them, that they may be one even as we are one, ²³ I in them and you in me, that they may become perfectly one, so that the world may know that you sent me and loved them even as you loved me."

Philippians 1:27–28

²⁷ Only let your manner of life be worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that whether I come and see you or am absent, I may hear of you that you are standing firm in one spirit, with one mind striving side by side for the faith of the gospel, ²⁸ and not frightened in anything by your opponents.

