



-FELLOWSHIP-

**“DOING
LIFE TOGETHER”**

ACTS 2:42-47

(Acts 2:42-47), “⁴² They were continually and faithfully devoting themselves to the instruction of the apostles, and to fellowship, to eating meals together and to prayers.

⁴³ A sense of awe was felt by everyone, and many wonders and signs (attesting miracles) were taking place through the apostles.

⁴⁴ And all those who had believed [in Jesus as Savior] were together and had all things in common [considering their possessions to belong to the group as a whole].

⁴⁵ And they began selling their property and possessions and were sharing the proceeds with all [the other believers], as anyone had need.

⁴⁶ Day after day they met in the temple [area] continuing with one mind, and breaking bread in various private homes. They were eating their meals together with joy and generous hearts,

*⁴⁷ praising God continually, and having favor with all the people. And the Lord kept adding to their number daily those who were being saved.” **Amp** AMP*

(Acts 2:1-2, 4), *“When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place,*

² and suddenly a sound came from heaven like a rushing violent wind, and it filled the whole house where they were sitting....

*⁴ And they were all filled [that is, diffused throughout their being] with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues (different languages), as the Spirit was giving them the ability to speak out [clearly and appropriately].” **Amp***

I. BIBLICALLY-BASED FELLOWSHIP

(Phil. 2:1-2), *“Therefore if there is any encouragement and comfort in Christ [as there certainly is in abundance], if there is any consolation of love, if there is any fellowship [that we share] in the Spirit, if [there is] any [great depth of] affection and compassion,*

² make my joy complete by being of the same mind, having the same love [toward one another], knit together in spirit, intent on one purpose [and living a life that reflects your faith and spreads the gospel—the good news regarding salvation through faith in Christ].” **Amp** *Amp*

(1 Jn. 1:6,7), *“If we say that we have fellowship with Him and yet walk in the darkness [of sin], we lie and do not practice the truth;*

⁷ but if we [really] walk in the Light [that is, live each and every day in conformity with the precepts of God], as He Himself is in the Light, we have [true, unbroken] fellowship with one another [He with us, and we with Him], and the blood of Jesus His Son cleanses us from all sin [by erasing the stain of sin, keeping us cleansed from sin in all its forms and manifestations].” Amp

→ When God saves people, He forms those people into a dynamic community whose members share their lives together.



- **Your common faith in Christ produces your common life, or community.**
- **Fellowship with God is the foundation for fellowship with one another.**
- **Sharing your everyday lives (DOING LIFE TOGETHER) is the expression of the life you share in Christ!!!**
- **The local church is the new covenant community through which the invisible God visibly manifests his presence on earth.**

Important Points to Note Here:

1. *Motivation For Fellowship*
2. *Hindrances to Fellowship*
3. *Benefits of Fellowship*



1. MOTIVATION FOR FELLOWSHIP

(Acts 2:1-2, 4), *“When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place,*

² *and suddenly a sound came from heaven like a rushing violent wind, and it filled the whole house where they were sitting...*

⁴ *And they were all filled [that is, diffused throughout their being] with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues (different languages), as the Spirit was giving them the ability to speak out [clearly and appropriately].”* **AMP**

There was an “Intensity of Connectedness” as a result of their being “filled with the Holy Spirit.”

- They shared *in* a common identity in Christ ([1 Cor. 1:9](#)).
- They shared *in* a common relationship with the Holy Spirit ([2 Cor. 13:14](#)).
- They shared *in* a common partnership in the gospel ([Phil. 1:5](#)).
- They also *shared out* of their abundance to meet the needs of others.

(Gal.5:16-24)

¹⁶ But I say, walk habitually in the [Holy] Spirit [seek Him and be responsive to His guidance], and then you will certainly not carry out the desire of the sinful nature [which responds impulsively without regard for God and His precepts].

¹⁷ For the sinful nature has its desire which is opposed to the Spirit, and the [desire of the] Spirit opposes the sinful nature; for these [two, the sinful nature and the Spirit] are in direct opposition to each other [continually in conflict], so that you [as believers] do not [always] do whatever [good things] you want to do.

¹⁸ But if you are guided and led by the Spirit, you are not subject to the Law.

¹⁹ Now the practices of the sinful nature are clearly evident: they are sexual immorality, impurity, sensuality (total irresponsibility, lack of self-control),

²⁰ idolatry, sorcery, hostility, strife, jealousy, fits of anger, disputes, dissensions, factions [that promote heresies],

²¹ envy, drunkenness, riotous behavior, and other things like these. I warn you beforehand, just as I did previously, that those who practice such things will not inherit the kingdom of God.

22 But the fruit of the Spirit [the result of His presence within us] is love [unselfish concern for others], joy, [inner] peace, patience [not the ability to wait, but how we act while waiting], kindness, goodness, faithfulness,

23 gentleness, self-control. Against such things there is no law.

*24 And those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the sinful nature together with its passions and appetites.” **Amp***

2. HINDRANCES TO FELLOWSHIP

- A. The first and primary hindrance to fellowship is our own personal sin, which is often rooted in pride and selfishness.**

- B. Another hindrance is a faulty definition of fellowship.**

(James 4:1-3) *“What leads to [the unending] quarrels and conflicts among you? Do they not come from your [hedonistic] desires that wage war in your [bodily] members [fighting for control over you]?”*

² *You are jealous and covet [what others have] and your lust goes unfulfilled; so you murder. You are envious and cannot obtain [the object of your envy]; so you fight and battle. You do not have because you do not ask [it of God].*

³ *You ask [God for something] and do not receive it, because you ask with wrong motives [out of selfishness or with an unrighteous agenda], so that [when you get what you want] you may spend it on your [hedonistic] desires.”*

(John 13:21), ²¹ *After saying these things, Jesus was troubled in his spirit, and testified, “Truly, truly, I say to you, one of you will betray me.”*

²² *The disciples looked at one another, uncertain of whom he spoke.”* **Amp**

3. BENEFITS OF FELLOWSHIP

(vss. 44-45) *“And all those who had believed [in Jesus as Savior] were together and had all things in common [considering their possessions to belong to the group as a whole].*

⁴⁵ *And they began selling their property and possessions and were sharing the proceeds with all [the other believers], as anyone had need.” **Amp***

A community is really functioning with appropriate love and compassion is evident when material needs are also a concern and are being generously provided.

(Jn. 13:34,35)³⁴ I am giving you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, so you too are to love one another.

*³⁵ By this everyone will know that you are My disciples, if you have love and unselfish concern for one another.” **Amp***

→ **We Considered:**

→ *the motivation for fellowship,*

→ *the hindrances to fellowship,*

→ *the benefits of fellowship*





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