

THE CHURCH AND ITS FELLOWSHIP

1. Text: I John 1:3-7
2. The fellowship mentioned in the text is one of the most important facets of church life. We must understand what it means for individuals and for the body of believers, the church.
3. Definition of fellowship or koinonia: The sharing as partners in a common spiritual relationship with the Lord.

I. **Its Importance**

1. Acts 2:42 The early Christians “devoted themselves to the apostles’ doctrine and fellowship.”
2. I Corinthians 1:9 “We have been called into the fellowship of God’s son, Jesus Christ our Lord.” II Thessalonians 2:14 “He called you by our gospel.”
3. I John 1:3 What we know we declare to you so you may have fellowship with us and ours is with the Father and the Son.
4. Jude 3 Koine is from the same root word and means common as in “our common salvation.”
5. Titus 1:4 We have a “common or shared faith.”
6. Galatians 2:9 Paul was given the “right hand of fellowship.”
7. Applications:

II. **Its Illustrations**

1. I Corinthians 10:16 When we commune in the Lord’s Supper we fellowship.
2. Hebrews 13:16 Do good and share. With such sacrifices God is well pleased.
3. Philippians 1:5 They shared with Paul in the partnership of the gospel.
4. I John 1:6 If we claim to have fellowship with Him and walk in darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth.
5. Applications:

III. **Its Issues**

1. II Corinthians 6:14-16 What fellowship has light with darkness?
2. I Timothy 5:22 Do not fellowship the sins of others.
3. II John 9-11 Do not share in a false teacher’s evil deeds.
4. I John 1:7 If we walk in the light we have fellowship with one another. Fellowship is triangular.
5. Applications:

Conclusion:

A Sermon preached by Monte Ginnings
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