

Understanding Fellowship

I. The Beginning is Christ

A. Our fellowship uniquely starts with Christ:

- i. In Phil 3:10, Paul says "that I may know him, and the power of his resurrection, and the fellowship of his sufferings, becoming conformed unto his death".

B. Have you died with Christ:

- i. Gal 2:20, "I have been crucified with Christ; and it is no longer I that live, but Christ living in me: and that life which I now live in the flesh I live in faith, the faith which is in the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself up for me."

II. What Is Fellowship

A. Shared faith (Philemon 1:6):

- i. Philemon 1:6, "that the fellowship of thy faith may become effectual, in the knowledge of every good thing which is in you, unto Christ."

III. How Is Fellowship Established With Others

A. Declare what you've seen & heard (1 Jn 1:3):

- i. 1 John 1:3, "that which we have seen and heard declare we unto you also, that ye also may have fellowship with us..."

B. Remember the connection with the Father & Christ:

- i. 1 John 1:3 continued, "...yea, and our fellowship is with the Father, and with his Son Jesus Christ."

IV. Results of Fellowship

A. Same mind & love:

- i. Phil 2:1-2, "If there is therefore any exhortation in Christ, if any consolation of love, if any fellowship of the Spirit, if any tender mercies and compassions, make full my joy, that ye be of the same mind, having the same love, being of one accord, of one mind;"

B. Plans develop:

- i. Gal 2:9, "and when they perceived the grace that was given unto me, James and Cephas and John, they who were reported to be pillars, gave to me and Barnabas the right hands of fellowship, that we should go unto the Gentiles, and they unto the circumcisions;"

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C. Giving to the Gospel spurred on:

- i. Phil 1:5, “for your fellowship in the furtherance of the gospel from the first day until now;”

D. Needs met among the saints:

- i. 2 Cor 8:4, “beseeching us with much entreaty in regard of this grace and the fellowship in the ministering to the saints:”

E. Affliction eased:

- i. Phil 4:14, “Howbeit ye did well that ye had fellowship with my affliction.”

V. **Matters of Discernment**

A. Matters who you marry:

- i. 2 Cor 6:14, “Be not unequally yoked with unbelievers: for what fellowship have righteousness and iniquity? Or what communion hath light with darkness?”

B. Matters how you walk:

- i. 1 Jn 1:6-7, “If we say that we have fellowship with him and walk in the darkness, we lie, and do not the truth: but if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanseth us from all sin.”

C. Matters who you are with:

- i. Rev 18:4 Speaking of Babylon, “...Come forth, my people, out of her, that ye have no FS with her sins...”.

D. Matters how you respond:

- i. Eph 5:11, “and have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather even reprove them;”

VI. **HBC Fellowship**

A. Congregational worship service.

B. Ministries.

C. Relationships pursued.