

Talk C

TALKING WITH OTHERS WHO KNOW GOD

SECTION IV

APPOINTMENT IV: TALKING WITH OTHERS WHO KNOW GOD

DEVELOPING OUR RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD THROUGH FELLOWSHIP WITH OTHER BELIEVERS

Objectives:

1. To emphasize again that the Christian life is not a code of rules (religion) but a relationship with Jesus Christ
2. To identify the basic purposes of fellowship and set the ground work for the church, which will be expanded upon later.
3. To provide guidelines for healthy and positive interaction between believers.

Term Defined:

Fellowship - *Koinonia*, which means participation together, to share together, to fellowship, have in common

I. I John 1:3-7

- A. Fellowship is with other believers, with the Father, and with the Son.
- B. People who share in this fellowship don't walk in darkness (sin) but walk in the light, in purity and holiness. (that is, a growing maturity)

II. I Corinthians 1:9

God calls us into fellowship with His Son. (Later we will explain how sin interferes with our fellowship with Christ and how to deal with sin.)

III. II Corinthians 13:14

Talks about the fellowship of the Holy Spirit and how it is desired to be a part of our life. (Later we will talk about the Holy Spirit and His role in our life.)

IN SUMMARY

Fellowship is with the Father, the Son, the Holy Spirit, and with other believers who are walking in the Light.

IV. Hebrews 10:24-25

- A. Fellowship is helping one another and others live Godly lives.
Verse 24 - Take time to consider a plan to help each other grow in love and good deeds or living out our faith.

It is important for us to take time to think and be intentional on how we can encourage each other in our walks.

Hebrews 10:25

1. We need each other, we are interdependent as a body, so don't forsake coming together (as is the habit of some - bad habit. Don't be independent apart from the body).
2. We must make the most of every day.

B. Hebrews 3:13

1. Fellowship is to be a daily activity (more than just Sunday)
2. It is much easier for a Christian to fall or give in to temptation when apart from the support of believers.

V. Romans 12:3-18

- A. Verse 3 Every believer has the same importance (You and I are not a big deal.)
- B. Vs. 4-5 God created us to work together. If a believer is not an active part of the body, that person's function must be performed by a different part of the body...not its proper function.
- C. Vs. 6-8 God has equipped every believer with talents, abilities, gifts for the purpose of ministry to and with the other parts of the body.
- D. Vs. 9-18 Standards for fellowship and treating one another properly.
vs. 18 A Christian cannot control all aspects of a relationship, but he/she can make sure that his/her side of the relationship is being handled in a Godly manner.

SCRIPTURE MOST FREQUENTLY TALKS AND TEACHES ABOUT FELLOWSHIP IN THE CONTEXT OF THE LOCAL CHURCH

(Like Romans 12, the following passages are in the context of a local church.)

VI. Ephesians 4:11-16 - A Picture and Description of the Effects of a Healthy Local Fellowship (church)

- A. Vs. 11-15 God provides for our growth and maturing in the context of the fellowship of a local church.
- B. Vs. 15 Christ is the head of a healthy fellowship. (Church leadership must always be sensitive to His leadership.)
- C. Vs. 16 A healthy fellowship is a team, and every individual plays an important part or role.

VII. Philippians 1:3-11 - A Portrait of Healthy Growth

- Vs. 3 Thanking God for everyone
- Vs. 4 Praying for each other (with joy)
- Vs. 5 Everyone helping to reach the lost
- Vs. 6 Everyone mature together as a team
- Vs. 7-8 A healthy fellowship is close and caring.
- Vs. 9-11 A healthy fellowship is becoming more and more like Christ everyday.

VIII. Colossians 3:12-17 - Living in Harmony

- Vs. 12 God sees Christians as a people, not just many individuals.
- Vs. 12b-15 Our inner personal relationship with each other should display these traits.
- Vs. 16-17 Christ is always at the center of our fellowship.

IV. 1Thessalonians 2:17-3:10 - Fellowship Should be Like a Family, Close and Caring

- 2:17 Having been orphaned from you and eager to see your face
- 2:18-19 Our joy, our exultation ,etc.
- 3:1 Endure it no longer
- 3:2-8 Going though hard times together
- 3:9-10 Rejoicing, praying, and helping in one another's growth

V. Romans 15:5-7 and John 17:20-21

God's desire and prayer for unity in the fellowship of believers.