



PART 1: DEVOTED TO FELLOWSHIP

Sermon Notes

Text: Acts 2:42-47

Intro:

Our shared experience in Christ is the basis for fellowship.

What you are devoted to determines your direction.

Today: Devoted to Fellowship

Acts 2:42-47 gives us a vision for a Spirit-empowered fellowship.

Fellowship is MORE than what we have made it to be.

1. Fellowship is MORE than Handshaking

Fellowship is more than actions, it is an attitude.

Philippians 2:1-4

The actions of fellowship is the result of a life that has been brought into fellowship with the Father.

2. Fellowship is MORE than Coffee & Donuts

Fellowship is more than surface level conversations at organized events. It is shared experience. Doing life together.

"If God is our father, the church is our mother." The words are those of the Swiss Reformer John Calvin ... it is as impossible, unnecessary, and undesirable to be a Christian all by yourself as it is to be a newborn baby all by yourself." - N.T. Wright

Spirit-empowered fellowship is not an event; it is a lifestyle.

3. Fellowship is MORE than My Ego

True fellowship is expressed through humility.

Philippians 2:5-11 - Jesus is our example

Conclusion: Having a vision for a spirit empowered life

A vision for a Spirit empowered life.

Life Group Discussion

Warm up:

1. What are some common cliches that you or other people think about when they here the word "fellowship?"
2. What are some examples of some "shared experiences" that you have had? Why are they so important to you? What kinds of emotions are attached to those experiences (i.e. joy, sadness, grief, peace, excitement, fear, etc)?

Study & Discussion:

1. Read Acts 2:42-47. What type of actions/attitudes marked the early churches devotion to fellowship? Do you see any similarities or dissidence between their experience of fellowship and yours? Name a few.
2. Read Philippians 2:1-2 and compare it to 1 John 1:3. What does it mean to have fellowship with God? What does that look like in your personal experience? How is our fellowship with God the catalyst for fellowship with others?
3. Read Ecclesiastes 4:9-12 and Hebrews 10:25. What do these verses teach us about fellowship? Why is it impossible to live out the Christian faith alone? What are the challenges and benefits of living out your faith in community?
4. In your mind do you separate fellowship as something that happens "at church?" How does seeing fellowship as a lifestyle change our actions?

Application:

1. Do you have a vision for a Spirit Empowered life? What would it look like if our church was devoted to fellowship with one another? What will you do this week to increase your own devotion?

Prayer:

1. Pray to experience a richer depth of relationship with God as we devote ourselves to fellowship with others
2. Pray for our church to experience the benefits of Pentecost
3. Other Requests
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