

Continuing Stedfastly in

Fellowship

TEXT: Acts 2:36-42

INTRODUCTION:

- A. THOSE WHO RECEIVED THE TEACHING OF PETER WERE BAPTIZED.
- B. NOT AN EVENT, THE BEGINNING OF A NEW LIFE.
- C. THEY CONTINUED STEDFASTLY. IN WHAT?
 1. The apostles' doctrine.
 2. Fellowship.
 3. Breaking of bread.
 4. Prayers.

D. LET'S LOOK AT THE SUBJECT OF FELLOWSHIP.

I. WHAT IS FELLOWSHIP?

- A. **FELLOWSHIP:** *koinonia*, "fellowship, contribution, communion, communication." LITERALLY, "JOINT PARTICIPATION" & "CLOSE ASSOCIATION."
- B. FELLOWSHIP EVIDENT IN THE EARLY CHURCH (**Acts 2:44-46; 4:32**).
- C. FELLOWSHIP, ROOTED IN LOVE, IS AN IDENTIFYING MARK OF DISCIPLES (**John 13:34-35**).
- D. THAT LOVE MUST BE GENUINE (**1 Pet. 1:22; Rom. 12:13-16**).
- E. THE MIND OF CHRIST (**Phil. 2:1-5**).
- F. ACTIVE (**1 John 3:16-18**).

II. THE BASIS OF OUR FELLOWSHIP.

- A. OUR FELLOWSHIP DEPENDS ON FELLOWSHIP WITH GOD (**1 John 1:3-4**).
- B. WHICH DEPENDS ON WALKING IN THE LIGHT (**vs. 6-7**).
 1. Enemies while in sin (**Rom. 5:10; Col. 1:21**).
 2. Reconciled while in sin (**2 Cor. 5:18-20**).
 3. Reconciled in one body (**Eph. 2:16**).
- C. THE GLUE OF OUR FELLOWSHIP? WHAT WE BELIEVE AND DO ABOUT IT (**Matt. 12:46-50; 1 John 3:1; Rom. 8:16**).

III. IN WHAT ARE CHRISTIANS TO HAVE FELLOWSHIP?

- A. WORSHIP (**Acts 2:42; 1 Cor. 10:16-17; Heb 10:24-25**).
- B. BELIEF AND PERSPECTIVES (**1 Cor. 1:10**).
- C. WORK (**Phil. 1:27; Eph. 4:16**).
- D. JOYS AND SORROWS (**Rom. 12:15**).
- E. SALVATION (**Jude 3**).

IV. SOME THINGS IN WHICH WE MUST NOT HAVE FELLOWSHIP.

- A. SATAN AND HIS WORKS (**James 4:7-8**).
- B. UNBELIEVERS (**1 Cor. 15:33; Eph. 5:6-7; 1 Cor. 5:9-10**).
- C. UNFRUITFUL WORKS OF DARKNESS (**Eph. 5:11**).
- D. ERROR (**2 John 9-11**).

V. SOME OTHER THINGS FELLOWSHIP INVOLVES.

- A. "JOINT PARTICIPATION." ACTUALLY JOINING IN.
- B. ENDORSEMENT.
 1. Verbal commendation. **Actually saying something is good.**
 2. **Saying or doing something that implies endorsement**, i. e., announcing meetings,

asking preacher to speak, etc.

C. **CONSENT.**

1. **Verbal consent without approval.**
2. **Lack of action or speech against. "SILENCE IS CONSENT."**

CONCLUSION:

- A. OUR ASSOCIATION HAS MANY FACETS.
- B. OUR SALVATION IS DEPENDENT ON OUR ASSOCIATION WITH GOD.
- C. SO IS OUR FELLOWSHIP WITH ONE ANOTHER.
- D. ARE YOU WALKING IN THE LIGHT?