

March 26, 2-017

Developing Koinonia with One Another

Experiencing God: Unit 12

Introduction

- To whom was 1 John written (circle your answer)
 1. To one specific local church
 2. To a group of churches
 3. To all the churches
- The apostle John expresses one of the purposes for this letter (1 John 1:3)
 1. That they have fellowship with _____
 2. That they have fellowship with _____
- If it was important for fellowship to occur between believers separated by great distances, how much more important it is for us within this church. How do we develop our fellowship with one another?

Share Our Faith With One Another – Philemon 1:4-7

- The apostle Paul writes to Philemon and:
 - Praises Philemon for his l_____ and f_____ toward Jesus and all the saints (v. 5)
 - Calls his action as the koinonia (fellowship, sharing, communication) of his f_____ (v. 6)
 - Sees the result of his actions as refreshing the h_____ of believers.
- What is the sharing of our faith with one another to the point that it refreshes the heart?
 1. It is NOT playing games or e_____ with one another (I am not saying that we should not do this, for sharing of our faith can occur in these things)
 2. It requires a mutual sharing in a spiritual way – a giving and a r_____.
 - Sharing in small g_____ - e.g. a Bible group discussing the topic of anger and helping one another work through personal anger issues.
 - Sharing in a large g_____ - e.g. singing, testimonies, reports of answered prayer, teaching.
 - Sharing one _____ - taking a genuine i_____ in another person's well-being (Jn 13:35 – love one another unselfishly)
- About 10 years ago a church-wide anonymous survey was conducted on why one attends LBC.
 1. 85% - because I felt loved and accepted.
 2. 74% - because of the pastor.
 3. 15% - because of another person in the church
(notice the emphasis is on receiving; we must also emphasize being on the giving side).

Share Our Resources With One Another (Acts 2:42-46; Heb 13:6)

- 3,000 Jewish travelers came to Christ and then devoted themselves to two things as Acts 2:42 states:
 1. The apostle's t_____
 2. F_____ (note that some versions have "and" after fellowship but there is none in the Greek text, which means that the following two are examples of fellowship):
 - The breaking of b_____ (a term for sharing meals)
 - P_____ (verses 45,46 states that they had all things in c_____ - same root word as koinonia)

●Heb 13:16 states that we are not to neglect doing good and sacrifices

1. The power of sharing
 - a. Everyone neglects giving \$1 to missions because they think it is insignificant
 - 1) In a church of 50 = \$50 never makes it to the field
 - 2) In 40,000 churches = \$2 million never makes it to the field
 - b. Implementing the ministry plan – requires careful planning
 - c. Pitching in to help those in need
 - 1) Skills – a team fixing up a person's house
 - 2) Finances – pooling money to help a person in a bind
 - 3) Transportation
2. All this is to be voluntary - learn the joy of giving whether that be your skills, finances, possessions, time (Acts 20:35).

Conclusion:

A growing fellowship results in unselfishly sharing our faith and resources with one another.

- God is always at work around us
- God pursues a relationship with you that is personal
- God invites you to join Him in His work
- God communicates to us by the Holy Spirit through the Bible, circumstances, the church, and prayer.
- God's invitation for you to join Him in His work will lead you to a crisis of belief requiring faith and action.
- Major adjustments are required to join God in His work.
- As you obey God, you will experience God personally.

LET US ALL EXPERIENCE GOD!