



WEEK 3 Fellowship

ICEBREAKER

Think about a time in your past or present that you were part of a group of people that really connected with one another. Share with the group some of the things you did together as a group that were meaningful to you.

SCRIPTURE READING

Read: Hebrews 2:10
Ephesians 4:4-7
Acts 4:12
Romans 8:14-16

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- **What does the word “fellowship” mean to you? How do you use this word in the context of your understanding of its meaning?**
- Fellowship is vital to the life of the Church. Christianity is not a spectator event that happens on Sunday mornings. Rather, Christianity calls you into a community, into a family where you live a shared life with other believers. We need one another. Fellowship is vital to the life of the Church.

Using the four points from a message Rick Warren gives on his Purpose Driven Life series, we know in God’s family there are four levels of fellowship:

- **Choosing to Belong**
 - **Learning to Share**
 - **Doing My Part**
 - **Loving Believers Like Family**
- **CHOOSING TO BELONG**
This is the most basic level. It means we find a church family and we choose to get connected to it.
Read: Ephesians 2:19
As followers of Christ we do not “go to” church - we are the Church. What are some ways that we can be intentional about connecting to our church family?
How might we welcome those that are seeking to belong and to connect them to our church family?
- **LEARNING TO SHARE**

The second level of fellowship is a little bit deeper, when we go a little further into the family of God, and this is learning to share. The word, to fellowship, in the Greek, is ‘koinonia’.

Read: Acts 2:44

Two things to note:

- you can’t develop friendships without meeting together; and you can’t develop friendships without sharing.

Describe a time that you attended a church (ours or one you were visiting) and that you were made to feel welcome like family. What did the people do to cause that feeling?

Share about a time you either shared a burden or someone shared with you theirs. Without using names, describe what transpired when someone took time to listen to you or you listened to them.

• DOING MY PART

The third level is partnership. Partnership is realizing that I’ve got a contribution to make; that the family of God needs me.

Read: Romans 12:4-5 & 1 Corinthians 12:17-21

Think about the talents, skills and availability you have been blessed with by God. Is there anything that you could be serving the body of Christ with that you have not yet made available to His Church?

What is preventing you (if anything) from offering yourself and your abilities to serve in His Kingdom?

• LOVING BELIEVERS LIKE FAMILY

The biggest responsibility we have once we have been adopted into God’s family is this, you have to learn to love everybody else in God’s family. This is what Jesus, the source of our salvation, is telling us, that we must do.

Read: John 13:34-35 & 1 John 3:16

How do we get to this deepest level of loving one another? Share a time when you were able to walk in to someone’s life (names not required) when everyone else was walking out of their lives.

PERSONAL REFLECTION

In what area of my life have I resisted the Spirit’s work? How can I change that attitude?

THIS WEEK’S CHALLENGE

Revisiting “DOING MY PART” above - if God is leading you to step out and serve one another - the challenge this week is to follow through and do what God is prompting you to do. Be “that” someone to someone this week.

PRAISE REPORTS / PRAYER REQUESTS