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**Sermon: *Fellowship is Our Collective Responsibility. Part 1***

**Scripture: Acts 2:37-47**

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**Introduction:**

Fellowship isparticipation & sharing.

The prerequisites of fellowship are genuine conversion & sound teaching. (v. 37-42)

* We HAVE Christian fellowship with one another because of our common standing in Christ.
* We EXPERIENCE Christian fellowship with one another as we relate to one another in supernatural love, unity, and humility.

The priorities of the first church:

(1) Apostle’s teaching (2) Fellowship (3) Breaking of bread (4) Prayers.

Scripture: Hebrews 10:25

**Basic Elements of Fellowship (vv. 44-47a): The fellowship of the early church involved…**

1. **A Community of Intimate Togetherness. (44a).**

* The church is to be a community where we are fully known & fully loved.

1. **A Community of Mutual Interdependence. (44b).** 
   * A practice of Selfless Generosity (45a).
   * A practice of Unbiased Kindness (45b).

***Scripture:*** *1 Corinthians 12:4-8; James 2:16*

1. **A Community of Christ-centered Worship. (46a)**
   * Remembering Christ’s Atonement. (46b)
   * Thanksgiving for Christ’s Work. (46c)
   * Praising Christ for His Blessing. (47a)

***Scripture:*** *Luke 22:19; 1 Corinthians 11:26; 14:17; Ephesians 5:20; Hebrews 13:15*

**True fellowship is experienced as we live lives of worship together.**

**Conclusion:** Healthy fellowship results in an overflow of worshipful reverence and winsome outreach. (v. 43, 47b)

*In response to the example of the Early Church, ask yourself the following questions:*

1. *Am I committed to the kind of togetherness that promotes intimacy?*
2. *Am I committed to caring for the body of Christ according to my opportunity and its need?*
3. *Do my relationships tend to promote worshipful praise and thanksgiving?*

**Questions to Consider:**

1. Why are the prerequisites of Christian fellowship so important?
2. What do the fellowship we have and the fellowship we experience relate to one another?
3. Why is being together so significant to healthy fellowship? Why is it such a struggle?
4. What are some of the hindrances to selfless generosity and kindness in the local church?
5. How does fellowship promote authentic worship?
6. In what ways can healthy fellowship result in fruitful outreach in our community?