****

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

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

Pastor Stephen Schultze

Sunday, September 23, 2018

**Introduction:**

Fellowship is\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ &\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

The prerequisites of fellowship are genuine \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ & sound \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. (v. 37-42)

* We \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Christian fellowship with one another because of our common standing in Christ.
* We \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_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) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (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 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. (44a).**
* The church is to be a community where each is fully known & fully \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
1. **A Community of Mutual \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. (44b).**
	* A practice of Selfless \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (45a).
	* A practice of Unbiased \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_(45b).

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

1. **A Community of Christ-Centered \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. (46a)**
	* Remembering Christ’s \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. (46b)
	* Thanksgiving for Christ’s \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. (46c)
	* Praising Christ for His \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. (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 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and winsome \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. (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?