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**Sermon: *Stewardship of Fellowship: Loving Jesus’ Church***

**Scripture: Luke 17:1-10**

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Sunday, January 13, 2019

**Introduction:**

Jesus calls for us to love and care for His church as much as He does!

***Scripture:*** *1 Corinthians 12:27; Revelation 5:12; Matthew 16:18*

**To be effective stewards of fellowship in the body of Christ…**

1. **We’ve got to look out for the spiritually vulnerable.** (v. 1-2)

***Scripture:*** *Hebrews 5:14; Galatians 5:13-14; Ephesians 4:32*

1. **We’ve got to pursue the errant wanderer.** (v. 3-4)
2. We pursue the erring that they might be reconciled and enjoy fellowship with God.

***Scripture:*** *James 5:19-20; Galatians 6:1*

1. We pursue the estranged that we might be reconciled and enjoy fellowship with one another.

***Scripture:*** *Matthew 18:15-17*

1. **We’ve got to stop offering faithless excuses.** (v. 5-6)
* Spiritual blind spots are often self-righteousness masked with excuses.

***Scripture:*** *Luke 6:41-42*

* God supplies everything we need to do all He commands.

***Scripture:*** *1 Peter 1:3*

1. **We’ve got to guard against self-righteous pride.** (v. 7-10)
* If your "obedience” breeds self-righteousness, you don’t understand the Gospel.
* We are to pursue loving fellowship with the same love, vigor and humility that Christ pursued loving fellowship with us.

**Conclusion:**

The cost of fellowship is extravagant. The benefits of fellowship are priceless.

**Questions to Consider:**

1. What are some ways that Christians can cause others to spiritually stumble?
2. Why does Jesus say to “Pay attention to yourselves”?
3. If we are to forgive someone seven times in the same day, does that mean we don’t address underlying issues? Why or why not?
4. What are some excuses we give for not rebuking and forgiving? Why are they worthless?
5. What is the point of the parable of the “Unworthy Servants”? What is the inherent warning in Jesus’ parable?