A collage of diverse people of various ages and ethnicities, with a central banner reading "Engaging Church". The collage features numerous individual portraits of people of different ages, from young children to the elderly, and various ethnicities. The central banner is a white strip with a torn edge, containing the text "Engaging Church" in a bold, black, sans-serif font. The background is a warm, golden-brown color, and the overall composition is a dense, overlapping arrangement of these individual portraits.

Engaging Church

Fellowshipping



Acts 2:42-47 (NASB)



Detroit Free Press
August 9, 2019

Fellowshipping



Acts 2:42-47 (NASB)

Acts 2:42-47 (NASB)

I. Fellowship is Activities Acts 2:42



Fellowshipping

Acts 2:42 (NASB)

42 They were continually devoting themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer.



Fellowshipping

Acts 2:43 (NASB)

43 Everyone kept feeling a sense of awe; and many wonders and signs were taking place through the apostles.



Fellowshipping

Acts 2:44 (NASB)

44 And all those who had believed were together and had all things in common;



Fellowshipping

Acts 2:45 (NASB)

⁴⁵ and they *began* selling their property and possessions and were sharing them with all, as anyone might have need.



Fellowshipping

Acts 2:46 (NASB)

⁴⁶ Day by day continuing with one mind in the temple, and breaking bread from house to house, they were taking their meals together with gladness and sincerity of heart,



Fellowshipping

Acts 2:47 (NASB)

47 praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord was adding to their number day by day those who were being saved.



Fellowshipping

Acts 2:42-47 (NASB)

- I. Fellowship is Activities Acts 2:42
- II. Fellowship is People Acts 2:42



Fellowshipping

Acts 2:42 (NASB)

42 They were continually devoting themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer.



Fellowshipping

Acts 2:46 (NASB)

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Fellowshipping

Acts 2:42-47 (NASB)

- I. Fellowship is Activities Acts 2:42
- II. Fellowship is People Acts 2:42
- III. Fellowship is Omni-directional
Acts 2:46



Fellowshipping

Acts 2:46 (NASB)

⁴⁶ Day by day continuing with one mind in the temple, and breaking bread from house to house, they were taking their meals together with gladness and sincerity of heart,



Fellowshipping

1 John 1:3 (NASB)

³ what we have seen and heard we proclaim to you also, so that you too may have fellowship with us; and indeed our fellowship is with the Father, and with His Son Jesus Christ.



Fellowshipping

1 John 1:7 (NASB)

⁷ but if we walk in the Light as He Himself is in the Light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus His Son cleanses us from all sin.



Fellowshipping

Acts 2:42-47 (NASB)

- I. Fellowship is Activities Acts 2:42
- II. Fellowship is People Acts 2:42
- III. Fellowship is Omni-directional
Acts 2:46
- IV. Fellowship is of the Heart Acts 2:46



Fellowshipping

Acts 2:46 (NASB)

⁴⁶ Day by day continuing with one mind in the temple, and breaking bread from house to house, they were taking their meals together with gladness and sincerity of heart,



Fellowshipping

Colossians 3:12 (NASB)

¹² So, as those who have been chosen of God, holy and beloved, put on a heart of compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience;



Fellowshipping

Colossians 3:13 (NASB)

¹³ bearing with one another, and forgiving each other, whoever has a complaint against anyone; just as the Lord forgave you, so also should you.



Fellowshipping

Colossians 3:14 (NASB)

14 Beyond all these things *put on* love, which is the perfect bond of unity.



Fellowshipping

Colossians 3:15 (NASB)

¹⁵ Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in one body; and be thankful.



Fellowshipping

Colossians 3:16 (NASB)

¹⁶ Let the word of Christ richly dwell within you, with all wisdom teaching and admonishing one another with psalms *and* hymns *and* spiritual songs, singing with thankfulness in your hearts to God.



Fellowshipping

Hebrews 10:24 (NASB)

24 and let us consider how to
stimulate one another to love and
good deeds,



Fellowshipping

Hebrews 10:25 (NASB)

25 not forsaking our own assembling together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging *one another*; and all the more as you see the day drawing near.



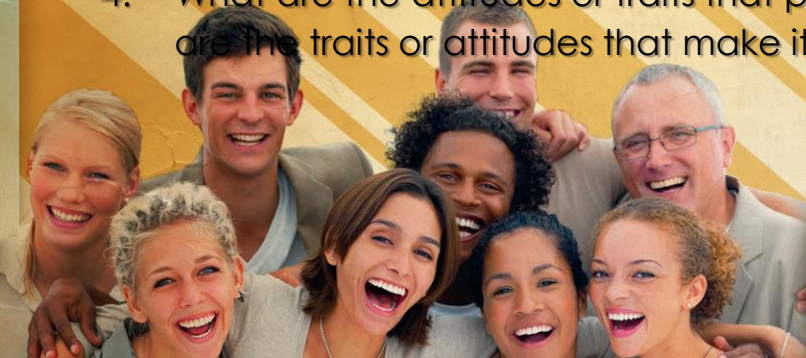
Fellowshipping



David &
Judy Jones
former
missionaries
to Brazil
with C&MA

Questions

1. What comes to your mind when you think of fellowship? How would you define fellowship?
2. Of the activities mentioned in Acts 2:42-47 (teaching, fellowship, breaking bread, fellowship, sharing and meeting physical needs of others, worshiping, hospitality, eating meals in homes, evangelism), which ones do you enjoy the most? The least?
3. Besides the pandemic, which has been hard, what are some of the main hindrances to fellowship today?
4. What are the attitudes or traits that people exhibit that make fellowship hard for you? What are the traits or attitudes that make it easy to be in fellowship with them?



Fellowshipping

Questions

5. Why do some Christians neglect to meet together?
6. Is hospitality easy for you? Remember the story about Karen Mains and how she realized that pride was her main problem in opening her home to others? Can you relate to her story? What are the obstacles or hindrances for you to practice hospitality (pride, poor, not a good cook, don't have the gift of hospitality, introvert, etc.)?
7. How is the principle of vertical and horizontal fellowship from Acts 2:46-47 and 1 John 1:3,7 exhibited in your experience at churches? Why is God's presence and Spirit so vital for humans to get along with each other?



Fellowshipping

Questions

8. In the last point about Fellowship is of the Heart, Acts 2:46 speaks about the Christians eating meals together “with gladness and sincerity of heart.” The word sincerity means openhearted, absence of pretense, simplicity. Pastor Randy used the cross-reference of Colossians 3:12-16 to describe some of the realities of both families and also church relationships. Paul describes the kind of heart that seeks out and maintains unity. He talks about bearing with one another, and forgiving each other. About love. About unity. About admonishing one another. In Colossians 3:12-16, which words of Paul speak to your heart the most as you think of your relationships in church and the difficulty of getting along with others in church?



Fellowshipping

Questions

9. Pastor Randy concluded the message with a challenge to begin to fellowship with people within the church by calling on the phone, visiting, taking a meal to someone or inviting them to your house or even writing a note and sending it by snail mail, lingering after church to get to know someone, joining the body life gathering on Saturday mornings at 9 am by zoom, or joining a small group. Which of these do you currently practice? Which of these could you practice more? What is the Holy Spirit nudging you to begin to implement into your life?



Fellowshipping