



The Forgotten Art of Fellowship

September 12, 2021



Movement 1 – The Master Artist's Plan

John 13:34-35

"A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another."

Movement 2 – The Forgotten Art

Acts 2:42-47

They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer. Everyone was filled with awe at the many wonders and signs performed by the apostles. All the believers were together and had everything in common. They sold property and possessions to give to anyone who had need. Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts. They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts, praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people. And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved.

Acts 4:32

All the believers were one in heart and mind. No one claimed that any of their possessions was their own, but they shared everything they had.

Gathering together

Learning together

Praying together

Sharing one with another
Worshipping together
Action oriented
Joyful
Attractional

Movement 3 – The Picture is Marred

Acts 6:1

In those days when the number of disciples was increasing, the Grecian Jews among them complained against the Hebraic Jews because their widows were being overlooked in the daily distribution of food."

1 Corinthians 11:17-18

In the following directives I have no praise for you, for your meetings do more harm than good. In the first place, I hear that when you come together as a church, there are divisions among you, and to some extent I believe it. No doubt there have to be differences among you to show which of you have God's approval.

1 Corinthians 11:20-22

"When you come together, it is not the Lord's Supper you eat, for as you eat, each of you goes ahead without waiting for anybody else. One remains hungry, another gets drunk. Don't you have homes to eat and drink in? Or do you despise the church of God and humiliate those who have nothing?"

Disruptions
Distractions
Disagreement
Deception

Movement 4 – Reclaiming God's Good Gift

Acts 6:2-4

So the Twelve gathered all the disciples together and said, "It would not be right for us to neglect the ministry of the word of God in order to wait on tables. Brothers, choose seven men from among you who are known to be full of the Spirit and wisdom. We will turn this responsibility over to them and will give our attention to prayer and the ministry of the word."

Humility - Galatians 5:13

You, my brothers and sisters, were called to be free. But do not use your freedom to indulge the sinful nature; rather, serve one another in love.

Romans 12:10

Be devoted to one another in brotherly love. Honor one another above yourselves.

Unity - Colossians 3:13

Bear with each other and forgive whatever grievances you may have against one another. Forgive as the Lord forgave you.

Ephesians 4:32

Be kind and compassionate toward one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you.

Romans 15:5 (NKJV)

Now may the God of patience and comfort grant you to be like-minded toward one another, according to Christ Jesus, that you may with one mind and one mouth glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Love - 1 Thes 3:12

May the Lord make your love increase and overflow for each other.

Ephesians 4:2

Be completely humble and gentle; be patient, bearing with one another with love.

Movement 5 – Becoming an Artist

Community - Ecclesiastes 4:12

"Though one may be overpowered, two can defend themselves. A cord of three strands is not quickly broken."

Hebrew 10:25

not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching.

Accountability - Hebrews 3:12

"See to it, brothers and sisters, that none of you has a sinful, unbelieving heart that turns away from the living God.

Refinement - Proverbs 27:17

"As iron sharpens iron, so one man sharpens another."

Encouragement - Hebrews 10:24-25

"And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds. Let us not give up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but let us encourage one another - and all the more as you see the Day approaching"

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