

CONNECTED BY FELLOWSHIP

Acts 2:40-43 and other Scriptures

Christians are blessed by one another's friendship

LET'S GET STARTED

Koinonia. That strange-sounding word is something no believer can do without, because it's the New Testament's word for fellowship. We need each other—not only because we're a family, and because we share the same beliefs about Jesus; but also because we need close friendships with other Christians that encourage us and provide support and companionship. Let's see what the Bible says about the value of Christian fellowship.

LET'S HEAR THE WORD

Acts 2 describes the birth of the Jerusalem church and how its members thrived as they became rooted in their newfound faith in Christ.

Acts 2:40-43⁴⁰ With many other words he warned them; and he pleaded with them, "Save yourselves from this corrupt generation."⁴¹ Those who accepted his message were baptized, and about three thousand were added to their number that day.⁴² They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer.⁴³ Everyone was filled with awe, and many wonders and miraculous signs were done by the apostles.

Three Marks of a Strong Church:

Strong _____ teaching (v. 42).

Authentic _____ among believers (v. 42).

An awareness of God's _____ (v. 43).

Quotable

The physical presence of other Christians is a source of incomparable joy and strength to the believer.

— Dietrich Bonhoeffer

Christian fellowship is the mutually beneficial relationship between Christians, who can't have the identical relationship with those outside the faith.

— Glenn Wagner

True unity of the Spirit belongs only to those who affirm God's truth and live godly lives as a result.

— John MacArthur

If you would like to know more

The Master's Plan for the Church, by John MacArthur (Moody Press), 2008.

CONNECTED BY FELLOWSHIP (ACTS 2:42)

WHAT MAKES CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP SO IMPORTANT?

- Close friendships with unbelievers _____ followers of Jesus.

2 Corinthians 6:14-15—¹⁴ Do not be yoked together with unbelievers. For what do righteousness and wickedness have in common? Or what fellowship can light have with darkness? ¹⁵ What harmony is there between Christ and Belial? What does a believer have in common with an unbeliever?

- We have a mutual responsibility to _____ one another

Hebrews 3:12-13—¹² See to it, brothers, that none of you has a sinful, unbelieving heart that turns away from the living God. ¹³ But encourage one another daily, as long as it is called Today, so that none of you may be hardened by sin's deceitfulness.

Hebrews 10:25—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.

- Believers instinctively _____ other believers

1 John 3:13-14—¹³ Do not be surprised, my brothers, if the world hates you. ¹⁴ We know that we have passed from death to life, because we love our brothers. Anyone who does not love remains in death.

LET'S LIVE IT

Rather than walking alone through life, let's take full advantage of the opportunity our church provides us to enjoy and benefit from fellowshiping with our Christians brothers and sisters.

If you would like to speak to any of our Pastors about a spiritual need in your life, here is their contact information:

Church phone: 843.569.6745

Pastor David: Office extension 11, email: dcoleman@crowfieldbaptist.org

Pastor Gary: Office extension 14, email: gfabian@crowfieldbaptist.org

Pastor Andy: Office extension: 18, email: aanderson@crowfieldbaptist.org

You may also discover what the Bible says about how to become a Christian by visiting the following page on our website: <http://www.crowfieldbaptist.com/salvation/>