

Week of June 1 - "Devotion to the Fellowship"

Connecting With One Another

What are the key differences between a secular fellowship (like research fellowship, medical fellowship or mathematics fellowship) and a Christian fellowship? Are there some similarities that you can think of? If yes, what are they?

Lesson Verses - Acts 2:42-47 (CSB)

42 They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching, to the fellowship, to the breaking of bread, and to prayer. 43 Everyone was filled with awe, and many wonders and signs were being performed through the apostles. 44 Now all the believers were together and held all things in common. 45 They sold their possessions and property and distributed the proceeds to all, as any had need. 46 Every day they devoted themselves to meeting together in the temple, and broke bread from house to house. They ate their food with joyful and sincere hearts, 47 praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people. Every day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved.

Discuss & Apply

1. Identify the various essentials to which the first believers committed. (Note: In this lesson, the focus is on the second essential: fellowship)

2. What are the elements of fellowship mentioned in the message? Which of these elements, if applied in your life, would be helpful in your spiritual growth in relation to your fellowship with God and other believers?

3. What are some signs or symptoms in the life of a believer and church that show a weak devotion to fellowship? What are the possible underlying causes? What are the possible cures from the Scriptures that can treat such problems? (Ex: Acts 2:42, Romans 12:10, Galatians 6:2, Hebrews 10:25)

4. Tokyo Baptist Church is an international family of believers from many countries. Despite all the differences in backgrounds, cultures and languages, by God's grace, we are united and share life in Christ.
    a. How can we effectively utilize this rich diversity in our fellowship to attract non-believers?
    b. Due to our brokenness and immaturity, there are times when we can still offend each other. How can we minimize and resolve conflicts when they arise?

5. What are some ways you and your small group can plan and do to:
    a. Increase your devotion to fellowship?
    b. Encourage others who are not connected to join a group (small group, prayer group, etc.) for the purpose of fellowship?
    c. Invite non-believers to experience Christian fellowship?

Magnify

Minister to one another through sharing specific prayer requests.