

## WHY FELLOWSHIP?

- A). It's biblical, (*Greek.koinonia*)
- B). It's beneficial

Fellowship **enhances one's well-being** by providing support, connection, growth, accountability, and shared experiences. Whether in personal, social, or spiritual contexts, the bonds formed through fellowship can enrich one's life in numerous ways.

**Personal Growth:** Fellowship encourages personal growth and development. Interacting with others who have different perspectives or experiences can broaden one's understanding of the world and challenge preconceived notions. Through dialogue, collaboration, and mutual support, individuals can **learn from each other and strive for self-improvement and wisdom.**

**Accountability:** Fellowship provides accountability and encouragement. Being part of a community or group can motivate individuals to set goals, pursue aspirations, and stay committed to their values. The support and encouragement from fellow members can **help individuals stay on track and overcome obstacles along the way.**

**Practical Implications:** Beyond its theological significance, koinonia (fellowship), carries practical implications for Godly living. It encourages believers to practice hospitality, non-judgement, love, generosity, forgiveness, and mutual support within their communities. It also motivates them to work together towards common goals, such as spreading the gospel and serving those in need.

**Overall:** Fellowship, (koinonia) represents the profound interconnectedness and mutual belonging among Christians, reflecting both their unity in Christ and their call to love and to serve one another in community.

**6** If we claim to have **fellowship** with Him and yet walk in the darkness, we lie and do not live out the truth.

**7** But if we walk in the light, as He is in the light, we have **fellowship** with one another, and the blood of Jesus, his Son, purifies us from all sin. **1 John 1:6-7 (NIV)**

# The purposes of the Church as outlined in the Bible

**1. Worship:** The church exists to worship and glorify God.

- *Scripture:* Psalm 95:6 - "Come, let us bow down in worship, let us kneel before the Lord our Maker."

**2. Fellowship:** The church provides a community of believers for mutual support, encouragement, and accountability.

- *Scripture:* Acts 2:42 - "They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer."

**3. Discipleship:** The church is responsible for teaching and nurturing believers in their faith.

- *Scripture:* Matthew 28:19-20 - "Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you."

**4. Evangelism:** The church is commissioned to share the gospel message and make disciples of all people.

- *Scripture:* Mark 16:15 - "He said to them, 'Go into all the world and preach the gospel to all creation.'"

**5. Service:** The church is called to serve others, both within the community of believers and in the broader society.

- *Scripture:* Galatians 5:13 - "Serve one another humbly in love."

**6. Unity:** The church is to maintain unity among believers, reflecting the unity of the body of Christ.

- *Scripture:* Ephesians 4:3 - "Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace."

**7. Edification:** The church is meant to build up and encourage believers in their faith.

- *Scripture:* 1 Thessalonians 5:11 - "Therefore encourage one another and build each other up, just as in fact you are doing."

**8. Mission:** The church is sent into the world to be witnesses of Christ's love and to bring others into a saving relationship with Him.

- *Scripture:* Acts 1:8 - "But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."

## **Why Wisdom?**

In the Bible, wisdom is often described as a profound understanding of God's truth and the ability to apply that understanding to life. It encompasses more than mere knowledge or intelligence; it involves discernment, insight, and practical application of moral and spiritual principles. Here are some key aspects of the biblical definition of wisdom:

**1. Fear of the Lord:** The foundation of wisdom is the fear of the Lord, which means reverence, awe, and obedience to God. Proverbs 9:10 states, "The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom, and knowledge of the Holy One is understanding."

**2. Understanding God's Will:** Wisdom involves knowing and understanding God's will as revealed in Scripture. It includes seeking God's guidance and aligning one's life with His purposes. James 1:5 says, "If any of you lacks wisdom, you should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to you."

**3. Discernment:** Wisdom enables believers to discern between good and evil, right and wrong. Hebrews 5:14 describes mature Christians as those "who by constant use have trained themselves to distinguish good from evil."

**4. Practical Application:** Wisdom is not merely theoretical; it is applied in everyday life. Proverbs is filled with practical advice on various aspects of life, such as relationships, work, finances, and decision-making.

**5. Humility:** True wisdom is accompanied by humility, recognizing one's limitations and dependence on God. Proverbs 11:2 states, "When pride comes, then comes disgrace, but with humility comes wisdom."

**6. Fruit of the Spirit:** Wisdom is one of the fruits of the Spirit listed in Galatians 5:22-23. It is cultivated through the work of the Holy Spirit in the lives of believers, as they grow in maturity and Christlikeness.

**7. Eternal Perspective:** Wisdom looks beyond the temporal and considers the eternal. It values spiritual truths over earthly possessions or achievements. Colossians 3:2 encourages believers to "Set your minds on things above, not on earthly things."

Overall, the biblical definition of wisdom encompasses a deep reverence for God, an understanding of His will, discernment in moral and spiritual matters, practical application in daily life, humility, reliance on the Holy Spirit, and an eternal perspective. **It is a quality that believers are encouraged to seek and cultivate throughout their lives.**