

July 7, 2020

Because God loves you, He Provides- Part 29

Did you know that God loves you more than anyone else could ever love you?

God proves His love to you by providing **fellowship** for you. **Acts 2:42**, *“They were continually devoting themselves to the apostles’ teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer.”*

The Greek word here for fellowship is *koinonia*. This word is so significant for us as believers. It paints a picture of two working and living as one. That is the kind of relationship God desires to have with us and what He wants us to have with each other in the body of Christ. Fellowship is critical in these two relationships. Unless we are walking in step with God, we will soon deviate from His path and make our own. We are selfish in nature and we tend towards our selfish desires rather than following His direction. That is why Jesus gave us instruction on abiding in Him. This is the key for fellowship with Him: **John 15:5**, *“I AM the vine, you are the branches. He who abides in Me, and I in him, bears much fruit; for without Me you can do nothing.”* The word for abide literally means “stay.” If we will come and stay in His presence, and not leave, we will experience the true fellowship of God and with God. And, when we do, we **will** bear much fruit.

I love how Henry Blackaby puts it in his study called *“Experiencing God.”* *Koinonia is essential for individuals and churches if they are to experience the vitality we see in New Testament Christians.*

As we abide in Christ, then the second aspect of living in fellowship with each other can become possible. I once heard someone describe this fellowship by saying, *“it is two fellows in one ship. The only way they can go in the same direction is by working together, and not selfishly.* Paul describes the church as the body of Christ and we are all members of it. As a result, we cannot try to impose our desires upon the body, but instead, follow the desire of the “head,” Jesus Christ. There are so many verses in scripture that talk about this kind of fellowship, and that tell us the importance of keeping the unity of the body. Here are just a couple: **1 John 1:7**, *“But if we walk in the light as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses us from all sin.”* **Gal. 3:28**, *“there is neither Jew nor Greek, slave nor free, male nor female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus.”*

Dear Father, help us today to walk in and live in fellowship with You and with each other. To do that, we must first of all live in Your forgiveness and then give that same forgiveness to others. Help us Lord to abide in You and to give Your love to others in return. In Jesus Name, Amen