

8 April 2018 - Second Sunday of Easter

Readings: Acts 4:32–35; Psalm 133; 1 John 1:1 – 2:2; John 20:19–31

Theme: *Fellowship* – 1 John 1:3, “that which we have seen and heard we proclaim also to you, so that you too may have fellowship.”

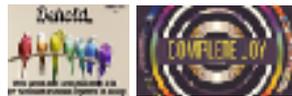


I. FELLOWSHIP WITH GOD.

1 John 1:3, “indeed our fellowship is with **the Father and with his Son Jesus Christ.**”

John 20:31, “but these are written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.”

1 Corinthians 1:9, “God is faithful, by whom you were called into the **fellowship** of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.”



II. FELLOWSHIP WITH THE BODY OF CHRIST.

Psalm 133:1, “How good and pleasant it is when **God’s people** live together in unity!”

1 John 1:3-4, “that which we have seen and heard we proclaim also to you, **so that you too may have fellowship with us.** And we are writing these things **so that our joy may be complete.**”



III. FELLOWSHIP WITNESSES TO THE WORLD.

A. Great commitment.

Acts 4:32, “Now **the full number** of those who believed were of **one heart and soul**, and no one said that any of the things that belonged to him was his own, but they had everything in common.”

Acts 2:42, 46, “And **they devoted themselves to** the apostles’ teaching and **the fellowship**, to the breaking of bread and the prayers... and **day by day**, attending **the temple together and** breaking bread **in their homes**, they received their food with glad and generous hearts.” **Hebrews 10:25**, “not neglecting to meet together,

as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near.”

John 20:24, 26, “Now Thomas... **was not with them** when Jesus came... Eight days later, his disciples were inside again, and **Thomas was with them.**”

B. Great blessing/power/grace/LOVE.

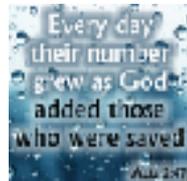
Psalm 133:3, “For there the LORD has commanded **the blessing**, life forevermore.”

Acts 4:33, “And with **great power** the apostles were giving their testimony to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and **great grace** was upon them all.”

C. Great conviction/service/sacrifice.

1 John 1:6-7, 2:1, “If we say we have fellowship with him while we walk in darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth. 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 cleanses us from all sin... My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin.”

Acts 4:34-35, “There was not a needy person among them, for as many as were owners of lands or houses sold them and brought the proceeds of what was sold and laid it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to each as any had need.”



CONCLUSION: Fellowship is a great answer to the prayer of Jesus. **John 17:20-23**, “I do not ask for these only, but also for those who will believe in me through their word, **that they may all be one**, just as you, Father, are in me, and I in you, that they also may be in us, so that the world may believe that you have sent me. The glory that you have given me I have given to them, **that they may be one** even as we are one, I in them and you in me, **that they may become perfectly one**, so that the world may know that you sent me and loved them even as you loved me.” **Acts 2:47**, “praising God and having favour with all the people. And the Lord added to their number day by day those who were being saved.”