**Ephesians 5:22-27, 32 (October 1, 2023)**

**“Christian Fellowship”**

**SERMON DISCUSSION:** How were you impacted by the sermon? What new thoughts or lessons did you discover? In what ways did you find yourself challenged and/or encouraged?

**READ Ephesians 5:22-27, 32**

**NOTE: This passage is used to support the understanding of “Christian Fellowship”.** “When we talk about the biblical concept of Fellowship, in most cases we’re translating the Greek word, koinonia. Koinonia is often translated as “fellowship” or “community”…It is a community of believers who share, contribute, and partner in Christian life…In the New Testament, the concept of Fellowship is inseparably connected to the Church….Fellowship is a foreign concept outside of the context of the church…the Church, for better or for worse, is the God-ordained context for loving one-another, serving one-another, and submitting to one-another.” (Dan Smith)

1. Look up the definition of fellowship. How would you define Christian fellowship?

Identify the similarities and differences between fellowship and Christian fellowship.

2. **Christian fellowship involves loving the body of Christ.** Jesus said, “THESE THINGS I command you, SO THAT you will love one another.” Name the things found in John 15:12-17 that will enable believers to love each other?

Share an instance when you were loved by a fellow believer in a meaningful way.

3. **Christian fellowship involves serving the body of Christ.** How is this involvement evident in Ephesians 4:11-13? In what ways have you been equipped by the body of Christ and how has this helped you to serve?

4. **Christian fellowship involves submitting to one another (Ephesians 5:21).**

A. What is found concerning submission and its purpose in 1 Peter 5:1-5 that relates to Christian fellowship?

B. Discuss how the thread of submission is woven throughout Ephesians 5:21, 22-27, 32.

How do you understand this particular passage connecting to Christian fellowship?

5. In what areas do you find yourself challenged and/or encouraged regarding contributing to Christian fellowship?