

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?