

# The Life and Health of the Spiritual Church



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## **Fellowship**



## **Acts 2:42**

- And they continued steadfastly in the apostles' **doctrine** and **fellowship**,
- in the **breaking of bread**, and in **prayers**.
- (Acts 2:42)

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Part One: The Influence of the  
Scriptures on the People of God

# The Influence of the Scriptures on the People of God

**Text** : Acts 2:42; 2 Timothy 3:10-17

**Title**: The Influence of the Scriptures on the People of God

**Theme**: Godly Living is Produced from Fidelity to the Scriptures

I. Timothy's Knowledge of the Apostle Paul 3:10-11

A. He knew Paul's Character (10)

B. He knew Paul's Difficulties (11)

II. The Contrast Between Those Who Are Godly 3:12-13

A. The Certainty of Persecution for Godly Believers (12)

B. The Certainty of Sinful Degradation for the Ungodly (13)



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## III. The Godly Upbringing of Timothy 3:14-15

- A. The Importance of Retaining Proper Doctrine (14)

- B. The Importance of Learning the Truth from Childhood (15)

## IV. The Authority and Sufficiency of Scripture 3:16-17

- A. The Authority of Scripture is Its Origin (16a)

- B. The Sufficiency of Scripture is Its Origin (16b)

- C. The Result of the Proper Use of Scripture is Preparation for Godly Work (16c)

# The Life and Health of the Spiritual Church

## Part Two: The Fellowship of the People of God

# The Fellowship of the People of God

**Text:** Acts 2:42; Romans 12:9-21

**Title:** Genuine Fellowship Requires Genuine Interest in Others

**Theme:** Believers May Experience a Godly Relationship Only When We Look Beyond Ourselves



# The Fellowship of the People of God

## **Introduction:**

Acts 2:42 The Pattern of the Early Christian  
Community

Romans 12:1-8 The Attitude and Actions of  
Christians as Members of the Body of Christ

# The Fellowship of the People of God

- I. The Devotion of Christians to Others Within the Body of Christ 12:9-16
  - A. The Call of Christians to Genuine Love (v 9)
  - B. Actions of Members to One Another (vv 10-16)
- II. The Actions of Christians to Those Outside the Body of Christ 12:17-21
  - A. Do What is Right to Everyone, Not Just Fellow Christians (vv 17-18)
  - B. Do Not Wrong to Anyone, Even Your Enemies (vv 19-21)

# The “One Anothers” of Fellowship



# Accept one another

- Therefore accept one another, just as Christ also accepted you, to the glory of God. (Rom. 15:7)
- There are no cliques in the community of God, no party spirit



# **Admonish one another**

- Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom, teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord. (Col. 3:16)
- The purpose of the singing of the church is to teach and admonish one another

# **Bear one another's burdens**

- Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ. (Gal. 6:2)
- Our duty is to ease the load of fellow believers who feel burdened

# **Bear with one another**

- with all humility and gentleness, with longsuffering, bearing with one another in love, (Eph 4:2)
- We should not become irritated with fellow believers but to be humble and patient

# Build up one another

- Therefore let us pursue the things which make for peace and the things by which one may edify [build up] another. (Rom. 14:19)
- Seek to find those things that create peace not friction so as to strengthen other believers.



# Care for one another

- that there should be no schism in the body, but that the members should have the same care for one another. (1 Cor. 12:25)
- In order to avoid divisions in the body each member should have concern for other members of the body

# Comfort one another

- Therefore comfort one another with these words. (1 Thess. 4:18)
- Comfort and console other believers with the truth of the Word of God

# Confess sins to one another

- Confess [admit] your sins to one another, and pray for one another, that you may be healed. The effective, fervent prayer of a righteous man avails much. (James 5:16)
- We need to be honest and admit when we have done wrong so that our sins can be dealt with and we will have healing.

# **Be Devoted to one another**

- Be devoted to one another with brotherly love, in honor giving preference to one another; (Rom. 12:10a)
- Fellow believers should be special to us and demand our devotion and love



# Encourage one another

- Therefore encourage and edify [build up] one another, just as you also are doing. (1 Thess. 5:11)
- We should endeavor be positive and encouraging with each other and strengthen each other.

# Forgive one another

- And be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, just as God in Christ forgave you. (Eph. 4:32)
- Even as we are to admit when we do wrong to each other, we then need to forgive each other, even as Christ has done to us.

# **Greet one another**

- Greet one another with a holy kiss. The churches of Christ greet you. (Rom. 16:16)
- A mark of Christian love and devotion is the enthusiasm we express in our greeting and welcoming believers as we gather.

# **Be Honest with one another**

- Do not lie [be honest] to one another, since you have put off the old man with his deeds, (Col. 3:9)
- Our lives should be transparent and sincere, rather than play-acting with each other, and being deceitful.



# Honor one another

- Be devoted to one another with brotherly love, in honor giving preference to one another; (Rom. 12:10b)
- Rather than seeking honor for ourselves we should endeavor to prefer others above ourselves.

# Be Hospitable to one another

- Be hospitable to one another without grumbling. (1 Pet. 4:9)
- We should be generous with what we have and after doing good to another we should not complain about what it cost us in time or possessions.

# **Be Kind to one another**

- And be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, just as God in Christ forgave you. (Eph. 4:32)
- Kindness is accompanied by being tender in our hearts and forgiving of other's errors.

# Love one another

- Be obligated in nothing to anyone except to love one another, for he who loves another has fulfilled the law. (Rom. 13:8)
- We have only one debt that should never go unpaid, that of love to others.

# Members one of another

- so we, being many, are one body in Christ, and individually members of one another. (Rom. 12:5)
- We should treat other members of Christ's body with the same concern, care, and devotion as we take care of ourselves.

# Pray for one another

- Confess your sins to one another, and pray for one another, that you may be healed. The effective, fervent prayer of a righteous man avails much. (James 5:16)
- We have a duty to hold up other members of Christ's body before God in intercession.



# **Be of the Same Mind with one another**

- Now may the God of patience and comfort grant you to be like-minded toward one another, according to Christ Jesus, (Rom. 15:5)
- We need to have a unity in the body rather than trying to have things only our way.

# Serve one another

- For you, brethren, have been called to liberty; only do not use liberty as an opportunity for the flesh, but through love serve one another. (Gal. 5:13)
- Even as Christ served us we need to deny ourselves in order to serve other members of the body.

# Spur one another on

- And let us consider how to spur one another to love and good works, (Heb. 10:24)
- Encouraging other believers in our community to do love and good works requires thinking and planning on our part.