

Relationships 101

#7 "AWAKEN"
SERIES



FELLOWSHIP (“koinonia” in Greek) is not something that “just happens” to a group of believers. It is a bond created by the Holy Spirit which is then reinforced by shared encouragement, mutual service, frequent confession and dignifying prayer – acts that enable a few people to become the love of God to one another, so that together they can become the love of God to the world.

John 15:9-17 *“As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Now remain in my love. If you keep my commands, you will remain in my love, just as I have kept my Father’s commands and remain in his love. I have told you this so that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete.*

My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you. Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one’s life for one’s friends. You are my friends if you do what I command.

I no longer call you servants, because a servant does not know his master's business. Instead, I have called you friends, for everything that I learned from my Father I have made known to you.

You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you so that you might go and bear fruit—fruit that will last—and so that whatever you ask in my name the Father will give you.

This is my command: Love each other.

1. Remain in Love

John 15:9 *As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Now remain in my love.*

1 John 4: 8 *Whoever does not love, does not know God, because God is love.*

Romans 5:5 *And hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured out into our hearts through the Holy Spirit, who has been given to us.*

2. How to Remain in His Love

John 15:10 *If you keep my commands, you will remain in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commands and remain in his love.*

(a) God's Word:

Psalms 119:11 *I have hidden your word in my heart that I might not sin against you.*

(b) Check your motivation:

1 Corinthians 13:1-3 *If I speak in the tongues of men or of angels, but do not have love, I am only a resounding gong or a clanging cymbal.*

If I have the gift of prophecy and can fathom all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have a faith that can move mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing.

If I give all I possess to the poor and give over my body to hardship that I may boast but do not have love, I gain nothing.

3. You are More than you Think

John 15:15 *I no longer call you servants, because a servant does not know his master's business. Instead, I have called you friends, for everything that I learned from my Father I have made known to you.*

- Jesus put high value on relationships.
- Early Christians multi-lingual
- Early Christians from diverse nationalities and cultures.
- Paul describes Christians as “one in Christ”

4. Fruit that Lasts

John 15:16-17 *You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you so that you might go and bear fruit—fruit that will last—and so that whatever you ask in my name the Father will give you. This is my command: Love each other.*



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