

FELLOWSHIP

"...I am writing these things to you...[so] you will know how to live in the family of God. That family is the church of the living God...." 1 Timothy 3:14,15 (NCV)

Five Building Blocks for Fellowship

"Love must be sincere. Hate what is evil; cling to what is good. Be devoted to one another in brotherly love. Honor one another above yourselves. Never be lacking in zeal, but keep your spiritual fervor, serving the Lord. Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer. Share with God's people who are in need. Practice hospitality. Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse. Rejoice with those who rejoice; mourn with those who mourn. Live in harmony with one another. Do not be proud, but be willing to associate with people of low position. Do not be conceited." *Romans 12:9-16 (NIV)*

A. The first building block for fellowship is AUTHENTICITY. (v. 9)

"...the word of God is full of living power. It is sharper than the sharpest knife, cutting deep into our innermost thoughts and desires. It exposes us for what we really are." Hebrews 4:12 (NLT)

B. The second building block for fellowship is COURTESY. (v. 10)

"Believers shouldn't curse anyone or be quarrelsome, but they should be gentle and show courtesy to everyone." Titus 3:2 (GW)

C. The third building block for fellowship is MUTUALITY. (v. 12)

"If one person falls, the other can reach out and help. But people who are alone when they fall are in real trouble." Ecclesiastes 4:10 (NLT)

- Mutual encouragement
- Mutual honoring
- Mutual accountability

D. The fourth building block for fellowship is HOSPITALITY. (v. 13)

"They worshipped together regularly at the temple each day, (daily) met in small groups in homes for communion, and shared their meals with great joy...." Acts 2:46 (TLB)

E. The fifth building block for fellowship is UNITY. (v. 16)

"Let there be real harmony so there won't be divisions in the church...be of one mind, united in thought and purpose." 1 Corinthians 1:10 (NLT)

"God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble." James 4:6b (NIV)

We desire a place where we are able to share our true feelings (authenticity); differences are respected (courtesy); we are encouraged to grow spiritually (mutuality); we spend time with people, getting to know them (hospitality); and we are supported in our purpose and are accepted, despite our weaknesses (unity).