

Growth Group Curriculum

WINTER SEMESTER 2022

"CALLED" WEEK 3 - Acts 20:36 - 21:8 - The Principle of Spiritual Friendship

For information on Growth Groups email info@cbclife.org

REVIEW

1. Was there anything from this past Sunday's message that challenged or confused you?
2. Can you think of one thing from Sunday's sermon that you are likely to remember two weeks from now?

MY STORY

1. On Sunday Pastor Jeff taught on the principle of Christian friendship. What has your experience of koinonia been since becoming a Christian? Has it been rich or anemic?
2. If you have a friend "in the Lord" what is one quality you admire about them?

DIGGING DEEPER

1. Read Acts 2:42 - 47 See if you can list the constituent parts of Christian community as Luke describes them.
 - a. Do any of these stand out to you? Why?

2. What was the purpose of Paul's visit to Jerusalem (see 1 Corinthians 16:1-4)?

a. Do you think his purpose had anything to do with why Paul was welcomed so warmly (21:17)?

3. How might Paul's teachings (Gal 2:16 or 3:10) have caused some strict Jews to be upset with him and even lead to a misunderstanding?

4. Read 1 John 1:1-7 What stands out to you the most about this passage?

a. How is the relationship between the Gospel and fellowship painted in this text?

b. The word koinonia appears (as "fellowship") four times in the text, twice referring to a sharing with/partnership with each other, and twice referring to a sharing with/partnership with God. What do you think it means that God calls us into koinonia with himself?

c. What do you think John means by walking in darkness? How does this break our koinonia with God?

5. Read Romans 15:25-27. Hidden in this passage are two occurrences of the word koinonia: first, the financial gift Paul is delivering to the poor in Jerusalem is

literally called a “koinonia” (translated “contribution”); and second, he makes the point that the Gentiles have “koinonia”-ed (translated “shared”) in the spiritual heritage of the Jews. What kind of additional light does this passage shed on the meaning of koinonia?

TAKING IT HOME

1. Ask God to help you identify the Koinonia in your life. Who are your significant spiritual relationships?
2. Is there someone you need to be reconciled to?

Prayer Requests:
