

## Sermon Notes

# WHY SMALL GROUPS

April 11, 2021

God the Father not only calls us into fellowship with Jesus but likewise calls us into fellowship with each other.

- Both relationships with (God and with the People of God are) are not only of the highest priority to God, but are Mandatory, must be actively present to mature in your intimacy with God.
- When you gave your life to Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord, at that very moment you were baptized by the Holy Spirit, who took up residence in you, signifying, you belong to God.
- At that very moment you were “also baptized” into the Body of Christ, the Bride of Christ, Brethren, the Church. (Church is not a building).
  - **1 Corinthians 12-13:** <sup>12</sup>For even as the body is one and yet has many members, and all the members of the body, though they are many, are one body, so also is Christ. <sup>13</sup>For by one Spirit we were all baptized into one body, whether Jews or Greeks, whether slaves or free, and we were all made to drink of one Spirit. (NAS)

So guess what that means? We belong to each other.

- **Romans 12:5:** <sup>5</sup>so in Christ we, though many, form one body, and each member belongs to all the others. (NIV)
  - **Belong:** I’m Counting on You. I’m Accountable to you.
- So God not only calls us into Fellowship with Himself...But He also calls us into fellowship with each other.

**1 Corinthians 1:9:** God is faithful, who has called you into fellowship with his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord (NIV)

- Fellowship: Koinonia: Communion, participation in the Divine

**1 John 1:2-7:** <sup>2</sup>The life appeared; we have seen it and testify to it, and we proclaim to you the eternal life, which was with the Father and has appeared to us. <sup>3</sup>We proclaim to you what we have seen and heard, **so that you also may have fellowship with us. And our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son, Jesus Christ.** <sup>4</sup>We write this to make our **joy complete**. This is the message we have heard from him and declare to you: God is light; in him there is no darkness at all. <sup>6</sup>If we claim to have fellowship with him and yet walk in the darkness, we lie and do not live out the truth. <sup>7</sup>But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus, his Son, **purifies us from all sin.** (NIV)

- Results of Fellowship

- **Vs 4:** Completed Joy
- **Vs 7:** Purification or Cleansing of Sin
- Increased Faith

- For this to take place we must learn to “bear” with each other.

**Colossian 3:12-15:** Therefore, as God’s chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience. <sup>13</sup>**Bear with each** other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. Forgive as the Lord forgave you. <sup>14</sup>And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity. (NIV)

**Mark 12:28-31:** Gods Greatest Command

- Love your neighbor is a command **1st for the church**. To love on those you belong to. (Romans 12:5). That displayed love then overflows and attracts the world to Jesus Christ. (They will know us by our love)