



points to ponder

How has fellowship in the church changed in your lifetime? Since the pandemic?

words to wrangle

What do the words "devoted" and "awe" tell us about our fellowship?

conclusions to consider

In what ways should fellowship change because of the changes in culture and the church? What does our group need to do differently?

read the daily Bible verses at the KBS website

A preacher and an elder were talking together about the topic that is on the mind of everyone: the Coronavirus. They were both surprised at how quickly society has lost its strength and its compassion. The elder commented, "Previous generations were asked to go to war. We are just being asked to sit on the couch for a while."

Over the years, our definition of fellowship has become limited to what happens when we eat food or snacks together. The early church did not have the luxuries of church buildings, nor were they safe to be together in public. Yet their fellowship marked their ministry. What do we need to do?

We need to see connecting with people as a ministry that all of us – not just the paid professionals on the church staff – need to accomplish. Sharing Scriptures and its meanings, serving one another, and building each other up needs to be a part of who we are. We need to be creative in our ways to express truth to others.

We need to be better communicators. Calling one another, sending notes and emails and letters, and reaching out in between services needs to become a priority. We cannot simply expect a person to be back next week. We need to be intentional about keeping people from falling through the cracks. It has to be a task for us all.

We need to be better at giving. A part of fellowship in the early church was taking care of needs. We are not good about sharing our needs. We need to assume that there are needs – especially with certain groups of people. Elderly, people with illnesses, younger people who have lost their jobs, newly married, and brand-new parents are just a few of the groups of people who need our help. If God has blessed you, there is a reason for your bounty.

Another way to fellowship is to bear a burden during a time of struggle. Phone calls and times of prayer become increasingly important.