

**MONDAY 6.5.23 - John 17:23**

From [quartermasterministries.com](http://quartermasterministries.com)... What is fellowship? Is it merely sitting together in a church service, then going home? Or is it more than that? Old Testament prophet, Amos, had some insight into this subject. "Do two walk together unless they have agreed to do so?" (Amos 3:3) That's an interesting question, and one that we should be asking ourselves regularly. What he's really asking is if two can walk in unity, as one. How do you accomplish that? In English it reads that they agreed to do so. The literal Hebrew says that they must fix upon each other. That's just like soldiers marching together. They need to fix upon each other so that their steps will be in sync with the soldiers around them. That's the difference between soldiers marching together and a crowded sidewalk. There needs to be some sort of spiritual "glue" to keep us from going in separate directions. Actually, God has provided just what we need. Hearing from the Holy Spirit is what keeps us marching together. That's why we must be in fellowship with each other. We hear from God to hold us together. We fix upon each other so that we can walk in sync together.

SPACE FOR REFLECTION

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**TUESDAY 6.6.23 - 1 John 1:7**

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. There is just something about being in the presence of fellow believers. Have you ever been in conversation with someone and find out over the course of the conversation that they a Christian? When this happens suddenly you feel a sense of unity with that person that only comes from sharing a relationship with Christ. Do you look forward to coming to Sunday worship or other church events because you know that being in the presence of fellow brothers and sisters in Christ will recharge your batteries? In this day and age when people tend to isolate themselves from other people it even more important that we not stop coming together for times of fellowship.

Let us not forget that God made us relational beings and if we are going to remain healthy in our walk with Him, we need to foster relationships on a regular basis.

SPACE FOR REFLECTION

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**WEDNESDAY - 6.7.23 - Galatians 2:11-21**

"You mind your business and I'll mind mine!" Is this biblical? Are we to live independently from each other, minding our own business even when we see someone scandalize the Body of Christ? Don't you believe it! God's Word exposes this two-faced lifestyle as hypocrisy, telling us to face it openly and squarely. In this unique passage of Scripture, we find one apostle confronting another apostle because of his sin of hypocrisy. This confrontation and restoration illustrate that Christians are accountable to one another. We are not islands unto ourselves, but equal members of God's family. As such, we are responsible to one another and our Lord to grow up in godliness. When any of us departs from this obligation—intentionally or not—we should be confronted and brought back with Christian love and compassion. No matter how gifted, important, or popular, none of us are exempt from spiritual accountability.

SPACE FOR REFLECTION

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**THURSDAY 6.8.23 - Joel 2:25-27**

The situation about which Joel is speaking was a real, actual situation through which the people of Israel had lived. The insects had come through the land in droves, so that neither animals nor humans could eat. There was severe famine in the land, which indeed caused the people of God to turn from their

sinful ways and turn to God. They called such a turn of mind, repentance. We do not speak of it often, but we should. They turned their hearts from other gods and self-fulfillment to the One true God. God promised to restore the land because the people repented. Interestingly, he then refers to all the locusts, which had eaten all the food, as 'my great army that I sent among you.' God had punished the people for their sin and specifically sent the locusts. By application, we should be conscious to repent of our constant sins and desire in our hearts to turn our hearts toward God, wanting to live for Him.

SPACE FOR REFLECTION

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**FRIDAY - 6.9.23 - Psalm 51:10-13**

David's prayer in Psalm 51 reveals our second great hope. The first is our salvation; the second is God's abundant mercy when we stray. David had sinned greatly, and he knew it. All sins separate us from God, but we humans tend to rank adultery and murder as some of the "worst." Although David did not escape all the consequences of his sins, he did receive forgiveness and the restoration of closeness with the Father. He prayed for God to create in him a pure heart and a steadfast spirit. Then he pleaded not to be cast from the presence of God and the Holy Spirit. Finally, he sought for the restoration of the joy of salvation and a willing spirit. Importantly for us, David knew that his experience could teach other transgressors the way back to fellowship with God. His prayer should be our prayer, too.

SPACE FOR REFLECTION

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SUNDAY MORNINGS – 9:40am

- Kids** CHILDREN'S CHURCH (Ages 4 – 4th Grade)  
LOCATION: Camp Shiloh on the Lower Level  
*available during the 9:40 service*  
NURSERY (through Age 3)  
LOCATION: Camp Shiloh on the Lower Level  
*available during the 9:40 service*
- Youth** YOUTH GROUP (5th – 12th Grade)  
LOCATION: Youth Activity Center (across street)
- Adults** SUMMER QUARTER BEGINS JUNE 4<sup>th</sup>  
LOCATION: B8-10 with Scott Naus  
**Explore the Bible** - *Jeremiah and Lamentations*  
LOCATION: B11 with Barry Wills  
**Masterwork** - Beginning 6/4, a seven-week study, *The Good Life by Dr. Derwin L. Gray. Jesus came to earth on a mission of reconciliation. The invitation card is known as "The Beatitudes."*  
LOCATION: B1-2 with Joel Day  
**Everything You Need** - *Author David Jeremiah uses 2 Peter 1:3-11 to show you the path to spiritual and personal transformation.*

The Churches of Galatia were engulfed in a storm. It was a spiritual controversy that was started by false teachers. The Apostle Paul founded the churches in Galatia on his first missionary journey, after which false teachers infiltrated the churches. They convinced the Galatian believers that Paul was not a true Apostle and what he taught them was inaccurate.

So, Paul writes a letter to the Galatian churches. In chapter 1, Paul proves that he is a real Apostle. He didn't receive his commission from the Apostles in Jerusalem. Rather, he received his apostleship from Jesus Christ Himself. In chapter 2, Paul proves that the gospel he proclaimed to the Galatians is the same gospel that the Jerusalem Apostles have been proclaiming to the Jews. They learned it from Jesus when they walked with Him. The Apostle Paul learned it from Jesus when he went to Arabia.

Spiritual storms threatened the Church 2,000 years ago, and spiritual storms still threaten the Church today. So, how can we not only *survive* the storm but *thrive* through the storm? We need to look in three directions.

TAKING OUR NEXT STEP TOGETHER IN THE WORD




SUNDAY EVENINGS – 6:00pm

- Kids** MESSIAH KIDS (Kindergarten – 4th Grade)  
Studying: "The Life of Jesus"  
Last lesson June 4<sup>th</sup>. Break for summer.  
LOCATION: Camp Shiloh on the Lower Level
- Youth** YOUTH GROUP (5th – 12th Grade)  
LOCATION: Youth Activity Center (across street)  
*5th-8th Grade meet downstairs*  
*9th-12th Grade meet upstairs*
- Adults** DIVE DEEPER WITH DOUG  
LOCATION: Worship Center

1. Look \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_ (vv 1-6)
  - C \_\_\_\_\_ – Stand firm in the truth of God's Word
2. Look \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_ (vv 7-9)
  - C \_\_\_\_\_ – Work together with fellow Christians
3. Look \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_ (v 10)
  - C \_\_\_\_\_ – Win the lost through acts of kindness

June 5<sup>th</sup> – June 9<sup>th</sup>

INTRODUCTION:

Part of our purpose and strategy as a church is to Edify and Equip  every believer. We desire to see every person take their next step with God, both individually as well as with families and small groups (E2 Communities). This devotional is to aid us in just that. We invite you to join us in daily devotion.

OVERVIEW:

Monday's and Tuesday's readings will be a follow up on Sunday's message, "Survive and Thrive" with Pastor Doug Lyon. Wednesday's through Friday's devotions will help prepare us for the message on 6.11.23, "Watch Your Step" with Pastor Doug Lyon.

KEY/MEMORY VERSE: "Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ, who gave himself for our sins to rescue us from the present evil age, according to the will of our God and Father, to whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen." Galatians 1:3-4

UPCOMING EVENTS

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL  
"KEEPERS OF THE KINGDOM"

Standing Strong in Today's Battle for Truth

July 16 - 20, 2023 - 6:00pm - 8:15pm  
Ages 3 - through 6<sup>th</sup> Grade