

# Christian Fellowship

**1 Thessalonians 2:17-18; 3:6-13**

*But, brothers, when we were torn away from you for a short time (in person, not in thought), out of our intense longing we made every effort to see you.*

**1 Thessalonians 2:17**

*For we wanted to come to you—certainly I, Paul, did, again and again—but Satan stopped us. **1 Thessalonians 2:18***

*For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, **Romans 8:38***

*neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord. **Romans 8:39***

*God sets the lonely in families **Psalm 68:6***

*Two are better than one, because they have a good return for their work: If one falls down, his friend can help him up. But pity the man who falls and has no one to help him up! **Ecclesiastes 4:9-10***

*But pity the man who falls and has no one to help him up! Though one may be overpowered, two can defend themselves. A cord of three strands is not quickly broken. **Ecclesiastes 4:12***

## Benefits of Christian fellowship.

### 1. Pleasant \_\_\_\_\_.

*But Timothy has just now come to us from you and has brought good news about your faith and love. He has told us that you always have pleasant memories of us and that you long to see us, just as we also long to see you. **1 Thessalonians 3:6***

*I thank my God every time I remember you. In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now, **Philippians 1:3-5***

*being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus. **Philippians 1:6***

*First, I thank my God through Jesus Christ for all of you, because your faith is being reported all over the world. **Romans 1:8***

*We continually remember before our God and Father your work produced by faith, your labor prompted by love, and your endurance inspired by hope in our Lord Jesus Christ. **1 Thessalonians 1:3***

**2. E \_\_\_\_\_.**

*Benefits of Christian fellowship.*

*Therefore, brothers, in all our distress and persecution we were encouraged about you because of your faith. **1 Thessalonians 3:7***

*I long to see you so that I may impart to you some spiritual gift to make you strong—that is, that you and I may be mutually encouraged by each other’s faith.”*

**Romans 1:11-12**

***People grow weary not so much at having done too much,***

***but by the fact that their work has been appreciated too \_\_\_\_\_.***

*Therefore, brothers, in all our distress and persecution we were encouraged about you because of your faith. **1 Thessalonians 3:7***

*but let us encourage one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching. **Hebrews 10:25b***

**3. C \_\_\_\_\_.**

*Benefits of Christian fellowship.*

*For now we really live, since you are standing firm in the Lord. **1 Thessalonians 3:8***

**4. J \_\_\_\_\_.**

*Benefits of Christian fellowship.*

How can we thank God enough for you in return for all the joy we have in the presence of our God because of you? **1 Thessalonians 3:9**

*There is a deeper relationship that takes place between Christians,  
because we are \_\_\_\_\_.*

## What are the goals and the purposes of Christian fellowship?

### 1. To grow up in our \_\_\_\_\_.

*Night and day we pray most earnestly that we may see you again and supply what is lacking in your faith. **1 Thessalonians 3:10***

*May the Lord make your love increase and overflow for each other and for everyone else, just as ours does for you. **1 Thessalonians 3:12***

### 2. To love others \_\_\_\_\_.

*What are the goals and the purposes of Christian fellowship?*

“Loneliness and the feeling of being uncared for and unwanted are the greatest poverty.” —Mother Teresa

### 3. To live blameless and \_\_\_\_\_ lives.

*What are the goals and the purposes of Christian fellowship?*

*May he strengthen your hearts so that you will be blameless and holy in the presence of our God and Father when our Lord Jesus comes with all his holy ones.*

**1 Thessalonians 3:13**

## Three stages in our Christian lives

1. Dependence—somebody else takes care of our \_\_\_\_\_
2. Independence—we think we can do it all by \_\_\_\_\_
3. Interdependence—you realize we all need \_\_\_\_\_

*Key: memories, Encouragement, little, Confidence, Joy, family, faith, unconditionally, holy, needs, ourselves, each other*