

# Church of Christ

## ...Heart to Heart ...

Biblical words, just like Biblical teachings, have been diminished in the eyes of many because of their misuse and abuse. The word “church” is used in every way from denominationalism to a building, none of which are Biblical. The word “love” is another word that is abused by many; it has lost its significance.

Another word that has taken a hit is the word “*fellowship*”. It is used in ways that the Lord never used it. Our *fellowship* has been reduced by many as having a meal together, a place we meet to eat or just sitting and talking to each other. True Biblical *fellowship* is something very unique.

John writes, “What we have seen and heard we proclaim to you also, so that you too may have fellowship with us; and indeed our fellowship is with the Father, and with His Son Jesus Christ.” (I John 1:3) *Fellowship* is a sharing in common, a communion with another. Our *fellowship* is with the Father and with His Son Jesus, which leads us to *fellowship* with one another. It’s not about eating together or just having a chat with one another. It reaches to the throne of God and His Son. That’s what we share in common. That’s what makes us one and enjoy one another’s company.

John continues, “But if we walk in the Light as He Himself is in the Light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus His Son cleanses us from all sin.” (I John 1:7) *Fellowship* is based on walking in the Light! That means our communion, our sharing in common, is based on God and the blood of His Son. We walk in the Light and our walk is what creates our *fellowship*. We speak about the Lord; encourage one another toward the Lord. Do you ever wonder why when people in Christ don’t want to be around others in Christ? If our walk isn’t in the Light together, our communing with one another won’t be there either!

On the day of Pentecost, when 3000 souls responded to the gospel preached, “They were continually devoting themselves to the apostles’ teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayers.” (Acts 2:42) Notice what their *fellowship* was centered around. It wasn’t a nice chat or a social activity. They weren’t hunters or fisherman gathering to talk about their latest adventure. They weren’t women who were working on a common project. It was with the Father and His Son Jesus and they talked about the teachings and prayed. They walked in the Light and had Christ as their common draw.

True, Christian *fellowship* is deeper than sitting on a pew together and chatting after worship or eating a meal. It’s walking together in the Light and encouraging one another in that walk. Think about it!!!

Brent