

Elmbrook Discussion Questions

Series: *Simple Living* *Community In Practice*

Getting Started

1. What are the various communities that you are a part of? How do they have an impact on you?

Head: *What is the passage saying?*

Read aloud 1st John 1:3-7, Acts 2:42

1. What do we learn about Christian fellowship?
2. Are you in a situation where you are gathering with other Christian people and getting to know them better and better?
 - a. If so, you are experiencing koinonia. How have you most benefited from koinonia?
 - b. If not, what is a practical step you are willing to take to experience koinonia?

Read aloud 1 Corinthians 12:12-26

1. What do we learn about the body of Christ?
2. How has the body of Christ stood out to you as being God's design?
3. What gets in the way of people experiencing Christian fellowship?
4. When is Christian fellowship at its best?

Heart: *How does this passage influence my inner being?*

1. How might God be calling you to be a part of God's design of fellowship?
 - a. Is there a further step that He might be calling you to take?
 - b. Is there an active role for you to take?
2. Which of the following attitudes of disconnect have you experienced?: "I don't belong," "I'm not needed," "I'm not good enough" (see verses 15-16, 21, 23-24)
 - a. How do these verses help us live into what is true?
 - b. How could you encourage someone experiencing these attitudes?

Hands: *How do I practically live this out?*

"Authentic worship means being present to the living God who penetrates the whole of human life. The proclamation of God's word and our response to God's Spirit touches everything that is involved in being human: mind and body, thinking and feeling, work and family, friends and government, buildings and flowers." – Eugene Peterson – The Jesus Way

Here are some suggestions, or identify your own practical next step.

1. **Talk It Out:** Share with someone about what God is teaching you about fellowship. Take a step to be less private about your faith. You will be experiencing fellowship.
2. **Encourage:** Take an active step to give into another person's fellowship experience. Offer a word, or action of encouragement.
3. **Pray:** Put into practice praying for others this week. Perhaps ask them how you can pray for them, or share that you have been praying for them.
4. **Read Scripture:** Take time this week to read through the Scripture passages in this study. Invite God to speak to you through these passages. Be open and ready to respond to what He has for you.