

Fellowship with the Lord

Introduction

1. **There is nothing as wonderful as having our fellowship with the Lord.**
 - A. **This morning, we are going to look at what fellowship with the Lord offers and what it requires.**
 - B. **Perhaps this knowledge from God's word will make us understand just how much Christians can appreciate the fellowship that we have.**
 - 1) **If you are not a Christian, you too can have this fellowship with the Lord through obedience.**

What it Offers

1. Rest

Matthew 11:28-30 Come to Me, all you who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and **you will find rest for your souls**. For My yoke is easy and My burden is light.

Hebrews 4:9-10 There remains therefore a rest for the people of God. For he who has entered His rest has himself also ceased from his works as God did from His.

Revelation 14:13 Then I heard a voice from heaven saying to me, Write: 'Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord from now on.'" "Yes," says the Spirit, **"that they may rest from their labors, and their works follow them."**

- A. **We can work hard today because we are confident of the rest that is promised to us later!**

2. Peace

John 14:27 "Peace I leave with you, My peace I give to you; not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid.

Romans 5:1 Therefore, having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ,

- A. **Many individuals would give much to just have peace of mind - this is something that every Christian possesses.**

3. Victory

1 Corinthians 15:57 But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

2 Timothy 4:7-8 I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. Finally, there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will give to me on that Day, and not to me only but also to all who have loved His appearing.

- A. **Life is full of competition. We all want to win. God has promised us fellowship with Him when we pursue Him - this is our ultimate VICTORY!**

4. Comfort

John 16:5-7

Romans 15:4-5 For whatever things were written before were written for our learning, that we through the patience and comfort of the Scriptures might have hope. Now may the God of patience and comfort grant you to be like-minded toward one another, according to Christ Jesus,

- A. **We have been given the word of God through the Holy Spirit - this word comforts us. The pages of old comfort us as we see how just our God really is.**

5. Resurrection and Life

John 5:28-29 "Do not marvel at this; for the hour is coming in which all who are in the graves will hear His voice "and come forth — those who have done good, to the resurrection of life, and those who have done evil, to the resurrection of condemnation.

John 11:25 Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in Me, though he may die, he shall live.

A. These offers of God are better than anything else one could hope to have. He is offering us fellowship with Him!

What it Requires

- Fellowship with God requires us to do something.
 - God offers us only the best - if we will do what He requires of us.
 - If we do, then we have and always will have fellowship with the Lord!

1. Worship

John 4:24 "God is Spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth."

John 9:31 "Now we know that God does not hear sinners; but if anyone is a worshiper of God and does His will, He hears him.

Hebrews 1:6 But when He again brings the firstborn into the world, He says: "Let all the angels of God worship Him."

A. Our life should be lived in worship to God. He is the reason that we are living today and forever!

2. Learning

Matthew 11:29 Take My yoke upon you and **learn from Me**, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls.

2 Timothy 3:14-15 But you must **continue in the things which you have learned** and been assured of, knowing from whom you have learned them, and that from childhood you have known the Holy Scriptures, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus.

A. When we realize what this fellowship offers us we will want to learn more of our Father.

3. Search the Scriptures

John 5:9 You search the Scriptures, for in them you think you have eternal life; **and these are they which testify of Me.**

Acts 17:11 These were more fair-minded than those in Thessalonica, in that they received the word with all readiness, and searched the Scriptures daily to find out whether these things were so.

A. The only way that we are going to know Jesus and know what we must do is to search the scriptures.

4. Service

Matthew 4:19 Then He said to them, "Follow Me, and I will make you fishers of men."

Ephesians 6:6 not with eyeservice, as men-pleasers, but as bondservants of Christ, doing the will of God from the heart

Galatians 1:10 For do I now persuade men, or God? Or do I seek to please men? **For if I still pleased men, I would not be a bondservant of Christ.**

A. We must want to serve God and please Him. He has given us one opportunity to do so. Here's our chance.

5. Faithfulness

2 Timothy 2:2 And the things that you have heard from me among many witnesses, **commit these to faithful men who will be able to teach others also.**

Matthew 25:21 "His lord said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful servant; you were faithful over a few things, I will make you ruler over many things. Enter into the joy of your lord.'

Revelation 2:10 **Be faithful until death, and I will give you the crown of life.**

- A. Once one becomes a Christian we don't know how long we will be able to remain here to serve God. We must remain faithful to Him until the end!**

Conclusion

- 1. God wants each of us to be in fellowship with Him.**
 - A. To do so we must do what God requires of us.**
 - 1) Why wouldn't we? Look at what He has offered to Christians that do His will.**
 - B. He offers Christians:**
 - 1) Rest; Peace; Victory; Comfort; and Eternal Life!**
- 2. If you are a Christian - count your blessings and continue to do God's requirements.**
- 3. If you are not a Christian - look what you are missing out on today and even worse eternally!**
 - A. You can be in fellowship with God and enjoy what it offers if you will obey His will and get "INTO" Christ. To get into Christ you must:**
 - 1) Believe - Hebrews 11:6; John 8:24; Acts 16:31**

John 8:24 "I said therefore to you, that you shall die in your sins; for unless you believe that I am He, you shall die in your sins."

Acts 16:31 And they said, "Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you shall be saved, you and your household."
 - 2) Repent - Luke 13:3; Acts 2:38; Acts 17:30**
 - 3) Confess - Matthew 10:32; Romans 10:10**
 - 4) Baptized- Mark 16:15-16; Acts 2:38; 1 Peter 3:21; Acts 22:16**
 - B. Then you are "IN" Christ (**Galatians 3:27; Romans 6:3-4**)**

