



Lewiston Church of Christ

April 21, 2019



Weekly Services

Sunday Morning

Bible Study 9:45 AM

Worship 10:45 AM

Sun. Day/Evening Groups

Wed Bible Study 7:00 PM

MINISTER

Joel Solliday: 208-743-2711

ELDERS

Doyle Dawes: 208-836-5718

Cal Groen: 208-602-8165

DEACONS

Education – Rick Richardson

Finance – Tom Hill

Outreach – Mark Whittaker

AREAS OF SERVICE

Building – Ken Vogtman

Custodian – Ron & Cindy Roberson

Fellowship – Joe & Carrie Bieren

Grounds – Cody & Doyle Dawes

Music Ministry – Ron Roberson

Secretary – Renee' Hill

Technology – Eric Kjorness

Technology – Cody Dawes

Great Words in God's Word

(Ninth in a series of bulletin articles on Bible words)

“Koinonia”

When 3,000 souls were baptized on Pentecost seven weeks after Jesus was crucified, they did not just go back to their old lives, unchanged. Listen to Luke: “They devoted themselves to the apostles’ teaching and to the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer.” (Acts 2:42). Let’s focus on fellowship.

Among the four priorities in the early church listed above is “*koinonia*,” the New Testament Greek word for fellowship. Paul used *koinonia* to describe the right hand we extend to a brother in “fellowship” (Galatians 2:9). It is also what we unselfishly put into the offering plate. In Romans 15:26, *koinonia* is the “contribution” we share with others. In 2 Corinthians 8:4, it is also the act of “sharing” in service to the saints. And when we “share” our faith, it is *koinonia* in action (see Philemon 6). But all this barely scratches the surface.

Koinonia orients us around what we share in common. Since forgiveness is something all Christians hold in common, *koinonia* is the word Paul chose to describe our “participation” in the body and blood of Jesus at the Lord’s Supper (1 Corinthians 10:16). It’s not just that we believe in Jesus; we die and rise with Him. The word *koinonia* draws us into deeper realms of “participation” with the suffering, death, and resurrection of Jesus (see Philippians 3:10). The handshake we offer to each other is grounded in the forgiveness we share in common through Jesus.

So, *koinonia* is more than something Christians share with each other. It also describes our bond with Jesus as we participate in his death, burial, and resurrection at the Lord’s table. It even describes our unity with the Holy Spirit Himself:

“May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship [*koinonia*] of the Holy Spirit be with you all.” (2 Corinthians 13:14)

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