

Fellowship: Partnership in the Gospel

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I. Introduction.

A. Text: Philippians 1:3-6.

B. “Koinonia” or “fellowship” means partnership- that is, working together for the gospel. (Luke 5:5ff, 10; 2 Corinthians 8:23; Philemon 17)

II. We take on each other’s needs as our own. (Philippians 1:3, 4:14)

A. We address each other’s material needs. (Philippians 4:15, 17)

B. We need to have a bifocal view of the gospel- we need vision for our neighbor and for other nations. (Matthew 28:18; Acts 1:8)

1. All of us are called to take the gospel beyond our own personal sphere of influence by partnering with those who are going to the nations. (Luke 17)

2. Involvement in the Great Commission is a responsibility, not an option. We just need to pray about how we are to partner with others in the gospel as needs come up.

III. We must pray for each other. (Philippians 1:19)

A. We must intentionally partner with missionaries in prayer.

B. There are several things we can pray for.

1. Paul asks for both personal and ministry prayer requests. (Romans 15:30-31)

2. Missionaries have both personal and family needs as well as ministry needs, and we need to cover both areas of need in our prayers for them.

3. We need to pray that God will use missionaries to raise up workers for the gospel in the countries that they are called to. (Matthew 9:36)

4. Prayer makes a difference.

Application questions:

1. How can you make a habit of praying for missionaries that you know?

2. What does it mean to take on each other material needs?

3. How are you partnering in the work of the gospel?
