

# *“Blessed To BE Together”*

Acts 2:46

July 16, 2017

**INTRO:** Welcome to our 29<sup>th</sup> week on the Disciple’s Path...

Today’s a day in which:

- Heaven will celebrate.
- Hearers will contemplate.
- Hell will commiserate

Lord I pray that you will grace us with your:

Clarity Discernment Courage Love Peace

**TEXT:** Acts 2:46

*And day by day, attending the temple **together** and breaking bread in their homes, they received their food with glad and generous hearts,*

**BIG IDEA:** “We are called to live authentically & interdependently with one another in biblical community.” – Disciples Path  
(see the 100 N.T. “one another” passages!)

*The blessing & beauty of Christ’s unified Body!*

(fork in the road...)

## Church is NOT:

- Carwash
- Convenience store
- Country Club
- Circus or Carnival

*Superficial vertical relationships will seek and settle for superficial horizontal Relationships... a.k.a. cultural, consumeristic-church. Conversely, by contrast, Supernatural vertical relationships will seek, and settle for nothing less than, Supernatural, God-honoring, horizontal relationships... a.k.a. biblical Church.*

- JDP

**(Church is to be like “redwood forest” vs. a “Christmas tree farm”)**





*“If you and I want our lives to count for God’s purpose in the world, we need to begin with a commitment to God’s people in the Church. God has called us to lock arms with one another in single-minded, death-defying obedience to one objective; the declaration of His Gospel... for the demonstration of His glory to all nations. This is God’s design for His people, and it is worth giving our lives to.” - David Platt*

**CONTEXT:**

Acts 2:36-47

36Let all the house of Israel therefore know for certain that God has made him both Lord and Christ, this Jesus whom you crucified.” 37Now when they heard this they were cut to the heart, and said to Peter and the rest of the apostles, “Brothers, what shall we do?” 38And Peter said to them, “Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. 39For the promise is for you and for your children and for all who are far off, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to himself.”

40And with many other words he bore witness and continued to exhort them, saying, “Save yourselves from this crooked/wicked generation.”

41So those who received his word were baptized, and there were added that day about three thousand souls.

*You've got to decide... Do you trust YOUR intuition or GOD's inspiration? Truth in love says: It's NOT “your wishes” but God's Word that really defines reality. - JDP*

42And they...

- Who is “they?”
- “They” are the new, N.T. Church!
  - “ekklesia” (100+ in N.T. with 90% local)
  - **ILLUSTRATION: water bottles vs. vase...**
- WE are “they...”
- Then who are we?

### Ephesians 2:8-10

### 2 Corinthians 5:14-21

#### *The Ministry of Reconciliation*

*14For the love of Christ controls us, because we have concluded this: that one has died for all, therefore all have died; 15and he died for all, that those who live might no longer live for themselves but for him who for their sake died and was raised.*

*16From now on, therefore, we regard no one according to the flesh. Even though we once regarded Christ according to the flesh, we regard him thus no longer. 17Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come. 18All this is from God, who through Christ reconciled us to himself and gave us the ministry of reconciliation; 19that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting to us the message of reconciliation. 20Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, God making his appeal through us.*

*We implore you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. [21](#)For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.*

*Sleeping in the garage won't make you car...  
Going into the church won't make you a Christian.*

### **VIDEO:**    *“Together #1”*

*[42](#)And **they devoted themselves** to the **apostles' teaching** and the **fellowship**, to the **breaking of bread** and the **prayers**.*

- “They devoted” = We are to BE devoted...
- What does “devoted” mean?
  - Dedicated... “Solemnly set apart”
- The Church is devoted to:
  - Apostle's (sound) teaching
  - Breaking of bread (community & communion)
  - Prayers... and...

➤ **FELLOWSHIP** = *“koinonia”*

[Acts 2:42](#)

*And they devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and the **fellowship**, to the breaking of bread and the prayers.*

### 2 Corinthians 6:14

*Do not be unequally yoked with unbelievers. For what partnership has righteousness with lawlessness? Or what **fellowship** has light with darkness?*

### 2 Corinthians 8:4

*they urgently pleaded with us for the privilege of **sharing in** this service to the Lord's people.*

### Philippians 1:3-11

*3 I thank my God in all my remembrance of you, 4 always in every prayer of mine for you all making my prayer with joy, 5 because of your **partnership in** the gospel from the first day until now. 6 And I am sure of this, that he who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ. 7 It is right for me to feel this way about you all, because I hold you in my heart, for you are all partakers with me of grace, both in my imprisonment and in the defense and confirmation of the gospel. 8 For God is my witness, how I yearn for you all with the affection of Christ Jesus. 9 And it is my prayer*

*that your love may abound more and more, with knowledge and all discernment, [10](#)so that you may approve what is excellent, and so be pure and blameless for the day of Christ, [11](#)filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ, to the glory and praise of God.*

### **Philippians 2:1-4**

*[1](#)So if there is any encouragement in Christ, any comfort from love, any **participation in the Spirit**, any affection and sympathy, [2](#)complete my joy by being of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. [3](#)Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves. [4](#)Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others.*

### **Philippians 3:10**

*I want to know Christ--yes, to know the power of his resurrection and **participation in his sufferings**, becoming like him in his death,*

### **1 John 1:3-7**

*(v.3-7 has “koinonia” 4X)*

**The Word of Life**

3that which we have seen and heard we proclaim also to you, so that you too may have **fellowship** with us; and indeed our **fellowship** is with the Father and with his Son Jesus Christ. 4And we are writing these things so that our joy may be complete.

### Walking in the Light

5This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you, that God is light, and in him is no darkness at all. 6If we say we have **fellowship** with him while we walk in darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth. 7But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have **fellowship** with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin.

T/S: *Think about this? Could you have this koinonia with:*

- *Judas?*
- *The Rich Young Ruler?*
- *A Demas... the Weeds... Goats or Wolves?*

***Could you share Communion with them?***

*Watch this!*

**1 Corinthians 10:16**

**(2X) = "Communion"**

*The cup of blessing that we bless, is it not a **participation in** the blood of Christ? The bread that we break, is it not a **participation in** the body of Christ?*

**VIDEO:** “Together #2”

**\*\*\* COMMUNION \*\*\***

(Don’t just remember what Christ did...

Remember what He did it all for!)

*43And **awe came** upon every soul, **and** many wonders and signs were being done through the apostles. 44And all who **believed were together (ep-pee)** and had all things in common. 45And they were selling their possessions and belongings and distributing the proceeds to all, as any had need.*

**T/S:**

*46 And day by day, attending the temple **together** and breaking bread in their homes, they received their food with glad and generous hearts, 47 **praising God** and having favor with all the people. And **the Lord added to their number** day by day **those** who were **being saved**.*

## **“Together” ( Hom - oth - oo - ma - don )**

Compound word: “homo/one” + “passion/zeal”

- Together they were glorifying God... AND at the same time God was gathering more glorifiers!
- Let’s look at that word: **“together”**
- **Used 11X in the N.T... 10 in Acts, 1 in Romans**

### **Acts 1:14**

*All these with **one accord** were devoting themselves to prayer, along with the women and Mary the mother of Jesus, and his brothers.*

### **Acts 2:46**

*And day by day, attending the temple **together** and breaking bread in their homes, they received their food with glad and generous hearts,*

### **Acts 4:24**

*And when they heard it, they lifted their voices **together** to God and said, “Sovereign Lord, who made the heaven and the earth and the sea and everything in them,*

**Acts 5:12**

*Now many signs and wonders were regularly done among the people by the hands of the apostles. And they were all **together** in Solomon’s Portico.*

**Acts 7:57**

*But they cried out with a loud voice and stopped their ears and rushed **together** at him.*

**Acts 8:6**

*And the crowds with **one accord** paid attention to what was being said by Philip...*

**Acts 12:20a**

*Now Herod was angry with the people of Tyre and Sidon, and they came to him with **one accord**...*

### Acts 15:25

*It has seemed good to us, having come to **one accord**, to choose men and send them to you with our beloved Barnabas and Paul,*

ILLUSTRATION: **Boiled/deviled eggs vs multi-egg omelet**

### Acts 18:12

*But... the Jews made a **united** attack on Paul...*

### Acts 19:29

*...they rushed **together** into the theater, dragging with them... Paul's travel companions.*

**\*\*\* So what happens when some one or group tries to dismiss these biblical standards... OR divide these biblical believers...**

**VIDEO: "Together #3"**

*Beware the wicked... like the woman who was willing to have  
a baby cut in half...  
If someone is willing to dismember and divide the baby – they  
neither love the baby, not the baby's Father!*

*“Unleashing radical people into the world requires  
the gospel as our foundation and our motivation.  
You and I must embrace a gospel that both saves us  
from work and saves us to work... We live  
sacrificially, not because we feel guilty, but because  
we have been loved greatly... and now we find  
satisfaction in sacrificial love for others.” – D. Platt*

**T/S:**      **see our BRIDGE Manifesto**



**One FAITH. One FAMILY. One FOCUS.**

*“But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you, and you will BE My witnesses (locally, regionally, and globally).” – Acts 1:8*

**One Question:** *WHAT DO YOU WANT?*

**One Offer:** *COME AND SEE.*

**One Promise:** *TRUTH IN LOVE!*

### ***Our Truth-in-Love Distinctives: We are...***

- 1.** Responding to grace & repenting of sin...
- 2.** Trusting the Bible & obeying God's Word...
- 3.** Growing in-Christ & living Spirit-led...
- 4.** Praying for guidance & following by faith...
- 5.** Dying to self & carrying our cross...
- 6.** BE-ing the Church & loving one another...(*truly* loving one another)
- 7.** Equipping the saints & exemplifying supernatural unity...
- 8.** Ministering as ambassadors & discerning matters shrewdly...
- 9.** Worshipping God vertically & experiencing Him horizontally...
- 10.** Proclaiming the Gospel (*no matter what*) & fishing for men...
- 11.** Making disciples-warriors & winning spiritual-warfare...
- 12.** Loving our King & serving His kingdom!

**“Together”** ( *Hom – oth – oo – ma – don* )

**Romans 15:5-6**

*May the God of endurance and encouragement grant you to live in such harmony with one another, in accord with Christ Jesus, 6 that **together** ( **HOM – OTH – OO – MA – DON** ) you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.*

**T/S:** Ask yourself friends... FAMILY...

Knowing that you live in the context of an eternity defining, spiritual war – every day... AND... being fully aware that the world is filled 5 types of people:

**Shepherds, Sheep-dogs, Sheep, Goats, & Wolves...**

Which do you want in your life:

***Superficial* or SUPERNATURAL relationships?**

**CLOSE:**

*Friends and Family,*

*I wrote this letter about 11 days ago as a final update about baby Elijah but didn't have the stomach to send it until now...*

*In Acts 26 as the Apostle Paul is standing before King Agrippa as a prisoner and arguing his case for the gospel he declares, "I would to God that not only you but also all who hear me this day might become such as I am—except for these chains." The hope of reconciliation with God was so real to him that he was able to look at a king while he himself was in chains and say, "I wish you were like me; I wish you had what I have."*

*Two days ago, we buried our second son, Elijah. He was born on June 21st and he died on June 27th at 4:05pm...*

*We have grieved much from the first day that we found out about our son's disorder. But, we have not grieved like the world grieves. Our grief has not been a black, hopeless grief. No, as our pastor Cj would say "we have steel in our hearts", we have the steel of the gospel. By the power of the Holy Spirit we have perfect faith in that Second Person of the Trinity who hung hopelessly on the cross. That Good Shepherd. His Father placed all of our sins on his own Son so that we might never taste the bitterness of death eternal, so that we might be reconciled to this great God. And we have known the presence of God more deeply as a result of this bitter season.*

*When God sees fit to take away one's child, it feels like he has taken out vital organs from your chest and your gut. But then he comes, he himself comes, and he comforts you. It is difficult*

*to explain the deep and abiding comfort of God's own presence in your life. Sometimes he feels so near that it feels physical, it is so real. I don't know what to call that. Is it mystical? I don't know, but it is joy unspeakable. When God takes your child, he takes part of you. But when God takes part of you, that part of you is in heaven with him. There is nothing like close proximity to Christ. As Samuel Rutherford used to say, God gives crosses to bear but he placed the heaviest part of the cross on his own son. In the same way that a Father acts like he needs his little son's help to carry something heavy, and his son thinks he is doing the heavy lifting by simply putting his hand under it - we feel like Christ has given us a cross to bear but in reality he has already borne it.*

*At other times **he comforts through his Body...***

*(Remember: **Our WORSHIP defines our Fellowship!**)*  
*which is the Church. In our day of individualism many are going without any real community. And when difficulty comes, they have no choice but to depend on the state, or upon professionals, or they just grit their teeth and try to get through it. The problem is, they don't really get through it because a secular society has nothing of hope to offer with regards to eternity and death. Sure, it steals poetic portions from Christianity and tries to sugarcoat them for society. But death is rancid and it can't be sugar coated. The only way to undue it is to reverse it, and Christ makes all things new. This is the message of the Church. For the Christian, in the midst of death, he has the privilege of being caught by the arms of Christ, he has the privilege of being caught by the Church...*



# Let's PRAY

## Worship:

1. Principle: *"Broken Vessels"*
2. Power: *"What A Beautiful Name"*
3. Proof: *Uganda BRIDGE family 2017*

## Study Notes:

*Hom – oth – oo – ma - don*

Greek Strong's Number: 3661

Greek Word: ὁμοθυμαδόν

Transliteration: homothymadon

Phonetic Pronunciation: [hom-oth-oo-mad-on'](#)

Root: from a compound of the base of [<G3674>](#) and [<G2372>](#)

Cross Reference: TDNT - 5:185,684

Part of Speech: adv

Vine's Words: [Accord](#)

**Usage Notes:** English Words used in KJV:

with one accord 11

with one mind 1

[Total Count: 12]

adverb from a compound of the base of [<G3674>](#) (homou) and [<G2372>](#) (thumos); *unanimously*  
:- with one accord (mind).

**Greek Strong's Number: 3674**

**Greek Word:** ὁμοῦ

**Transliteration:** homou

**Phonetic Pronunciation:** [hom-oo'](#)

**Root:** genitive case of homos (the same, akin to [<G260>](#)) as adv

**Cross Reference:**

**Part of Speech:** adv

**Vine's Words:** [Together](#)

**Usage Notes:** English Words used in KJV:

together 3

[Total Count: 3]

generic of **homos** (the *same*;-kin to [<G260>](#) (hama)) as adverb; *at the same* place or time :-  
together.

>>> **Together**

**Usage Number:** 1

**Strong's Number:** [<G3674>](#)

**Original Word:** ὁμοῦ, *homou*

**Usage Notes:** used in connection with place, in [John 21:2](#); [Acts 2:1](#) (in the best texts), RV, "together" (AV, "with one accord," translating the inferior reading *homothymadon*: see [ACCORD](#), A), is used without the idea of place in [John 4:36](#); [John 20:4](#).

Vine's Expository Dictionary of Old Testament and New Testament Words.

**Greek Strong's Number: 2372**

**Greek Word:** θυμός

**Transliteration:** thymos

**Phonetic Pronunciation:** [thoo-mos'](#)

**Root:** from [<G2380>](#)

**Cross Reference:** TDNT - 3:167,339

**Part of Speech:** n m

**Vine's Words:** [Fierce](#), [Fierceness](#), [Wrath](#)

### Usage Notes:

English Words used in KJV:

wrath 15

fierceness 2

indignation 1

[Total Count: 18]

from [<G2380>](#) (thuo); *passion* (as if *breathing* hard) :- fierceness, indignation, wrath. Compare [<G5590>](#) (psuche).

>>> **Strong's Number:** [<G2372>](#)

**Original Word:** θυμός, *thymos*

**Usage Notes:** "hot anger, passion," for which see [ANGER](#), Notes (1) and (2), is translated "wrath" in [Luke 4:28](#); [Acts 19:28](#); [Rom. 2:8](#), RV; Gal. [Rom. 5:20](#); [Eph. 4:31](#); [Col. 3:8](#); [Heb. 11:27](#); [Rev. 12:12](#); [Rev. 14:8](#), 10, 19; [Rev. 15:1](#), 7; [Rev. 16:1](#); [Rev. 18:3](#); "wraths" in [2 Cor. 12:20](#); "fierceness" in [Rev. 16:19](#); [Rev. 19:15](#)

Vine's Expository Dictionary of Old Testament and New Testament Words.

### Accord

**Usage Number:** A-1

**Part Of Speech:** Adverb

**Strong's Number:** [<G3661>](#)

**Original Word:** [ὁμοθυμαδόν](#), *homothymadon*

**Usage Notes:** "of one accord" (from *homōs*, "same," *thymos*, "mind"), occurs eleven times, ten in the [Acts 1:14](#); [Acts 2:46](#); [Acts 4:24](#); [Acts 5:12](#); [Acts 7:57](#); [Acts 8:6](#); [Acts 12:20](#); [Acts 15:25](#); [Acts 18:12](#); [Acts 19:29](#), and the other in [Rom. 15:6](#), where, for AV, with one mind," the RV has "with one accord," as throughout the Acts. See [MIND](#).

Note: In [Acts 2:1](#), the adverb *homou*, "together," is so rendered in the RV, for AV, "of one accord."

Vine's Expository Dictionary of Old Testament and New Testament Words.

## HELPS Word-studies

**3661** *homothymadón* (from *homo*, "same" and [2372](#) / *thymós*, "passion") - properly, with the *same passion*, in "one accord" (having the same desire).

[3661](#) / *homothymadón* ("of the same passion") describes people who share "*like precious faith*," creating a God-produced unity between them (cf. 2 Pet 1:1,2). Here they "have the same mind" (the Lord's thoughts) because each receives the same revelation of His Word. See this powerful application of [3661](#) (*homothymadón*) in Ac 1:14, 2:1,46, 4:24, 5:12, 8:6.

[There is also the *evil* manifestation of people having "one passion" - see Ac 7:57, 18:12, 19:29.

[3661](#) (*homothymadón*) is also used in Homer, "Wolves and lambs do not have hearts *to agree* with each other" (*Il.* 22.263, *ala Abbott-Smith*).]

# Strong's Greek 3661

## 11 Occurrences

ὁμοθυμαδὸν – 11 Occ.

### Acts 1:14 Adv

*All these with **one accord** were devoting themselves to prayer, together with the women and Mary the mother of Jesus, and his brothers.*

GRK: ἦσαν προσκατεροῦντες ὁμοθυμαδὸν τῇ προσευχῇ

NAS: all **with one mind** were continually devoting themselves

KJV: continued **with one accord** in prayer

INT: were steadfastly continuing **with one accord** in prayer

### Acts 2:46 Adv

*And day by day, attending the temple **together** and breaking bread in their homes, they received their food with glad and generous hearts,*

GRK: τε προσκατεροῦντες ὁμοθυμαδὸν ἐν τῷ

NAS: continuing **with one mind** in the temple,

KJV: daily **with one accord** in

INT: and steadfastly continuing **with one accord** in the

### Acts 4:24 Adv

*And when they heard it, they lifted their voices **together** to God and said, “Sovereign Lord, who made the heaven and the earth and the sea and everything in them,*

**GRK:** δὲ ἀκούσαντες ὁμοθυμαδὸν ἤραν φωνὴν

**NAS:** to God *with one accord* and said,

**KJV:** to God *with one accord*, and said,

**INT:** moreover having heard *with one accord* they lifted up [their] voice

### **Acts 5:12** Adv

*Now many signs and wonders were regularly done among the people by the hands of the apostles. And they were all **together** in Solomon’s Portico.*

**GRK:** καὶ ἦσαν ὁμοθυμαδὸν ἅπαντες ἐν

**NAS:** and they were all *with one accord* in Solomon's

**KJV:** all *with one accord* in

**INT:** and they were *with one accord* all in

### **Acts 7:57** Adv

*But they cried out with a loud voice and stopped their ears and rushed **together** at him.*

**GRK:** καὶ ὄρμησαν ὁμοθυμαδὸν ἐπ' αὐτόν  
**NAS:** and rushed *at him with one impulse.*  
**KJV:** upon him *with one accord,*  
**INT:** and rushed *with one accord* upon him

### Acts 8:6 Adv

*And the crowds with one accord paid attention to what was being said by Philip, when they heard him and saw the signs that he did.*

**GRK:** τοῦ Φιλίππου ὁμοθυμαδὸν ἐν τῷ  
**NAS:** The crowds *with one accord* were giving attention  
**KJV:** the people *with one accord* gave heed  
**INT:** Philip *with one accord* in the [time]

### Acts 12:20a Adv

*Now Herod was angry with the people of Tyre and Sidon, and they came to him with one accord...*

**GRK:** καὶ Σιδωνίοις ὁμοθυμαδὸν δὲ παρήσαν  
**NAS:** and Sidon; *and with one accord* they came  
**KJV:** but they came *with one accord* to him,  
**INT:** and Sidonians *with one accord* moreover they came

## Acts 15:25 Adv

*It has seemed good to us, having come to one accord, to choose men and send them to you with our beloved Barnabas and Paul,*

GRK: ἡμῖν γενομένοις ὁμοθυμαδὸν ἐκλεξαμένοις ἄνδρας

NAS: to us, having become *of one mind*, to select

KJV: being assembled *with one accord*, to send

INT: to us having come *with one accord* having chosen men

## Acts 18:12 Adv

*But when Gallio was proconsul of Achaia, the Jews made a united attack on Paul and brought him before the tribunal,*

GRK: οἱ Ἰουδαῖοι ὁμοθυμαδὸν τῷ Παύλῳ

NAS: the Jews *with one accord* rose up against

KJV: made insurrection *with one accord against* Paul,

INT: the Jews *with one accord* Paul

## Acts 19:29 Adv

*So the city was filled with the confusion, and they rushed together into the theater, dragging with them Gaius and Aristarchus, Macedonians who were Paul's companions in travel.*

GRK: ὄρμησάν τε ὁμοθυμαδὸν εἰς τὸ

NAS: and they rushed *with one accord* into the theater,

KJV: they rushed *with one accord* into

INT: they rushed also *with one accord* to the

## Romans 15:5-6 Adv

*May the God of endurance and encouragement grant you to live in such harmony with one another, in accord with Christ Jesus, **6** that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.*

GRK: ἵνα ὁμοθυμαδὸν ἐν ἑνὶ

NAS: so *that with one accord* you may with one

KJV: That ye may *with one mind* [and] one

INT: that *with one accord* with one

### Thayer's Greek Lexicon

STRONGS NT 3661: ὁμοθυμαδόν

ὁμοθυμαδόν (from ὁμοθυμος, and this from ὁμός and θυμός; on adverbs in ὁμοθυμαδόν (chiefly derived from nouns, and designating form or structure) as γνωμηδον, ροιζηδόν, etc., cf. Alexander Buttmann (1873) Ausf. Spr. ii., p. 452), **with one mind, of one accord** (Vulg. unanimiter (etc.)): [Romans](#)

[15:6](#); [Acts 1:14](#); [Acts 2:46](#); [Acts 4:24](#); [Acts 7:57](#); [Acts 8:6](#); [Acts 12:20](#); [Acts 15:25](#); [Acts 18:12](#); [Acts 19:29](#),  
and R G in (Aristophanes, Xenophon, Demosthenes, Philo, Josephus, Herodotus, the Sept. **Lamentations 2:8**; **Job 17:16**; [Numbers 24:24](#), etc.); with ἅπαντες (L T WH πάντες) (Aristophanes pax 484, and often in classical Greek), [Acts 5:12](#) (cf. 2:1 above).

## ***KOINONIA:***

Strong's Greek 2842  
19 Occurrences

### **Acts 2:42 N-DFS**

GRK: καὶ τῆ κοινωνία τῆ κλάσει

NAS: teaching *and to fellowship*, to the breaking

KJV: and *fellowship*, and

INT: and *in fellowship* the breaking

### **Romans 15:26 N-AFS**

GRK: καὶ Ἀχαΐα κοινωνίαν τινὰ ποιήσασθαι

NAS: to make *a contribution* for the poor

KJV: a certain *contribution* for

INT: and Achaia *a contribution* certain to make

## 1 Corinthians 1:9 N-AFS (See John 17)

GRK: ἐκλήθητε εἰς **κοινωνίαν** τοῦ υἱοῦ

NAS: you were called *into fellowship* with His Son,

KJV: unto *the fellowship* of his

INT: you were called into *fellowship* of the Son

## 1 Corinthians 10:16 N-NFS

GRK: εὐλογοῦμεν οὐχὶ **κοινωνία** ἐστὶν τοῦ

NAS: we bless *a sharing* in the blood

KJV: not *the communion* of the blood

INT: we bless not *fellowship* is it of the

## 1 Corinthians 10:16 N-NFS

GRK: κλῶμεν οὐχὶ **κοινωνία** τοῦ σώματος

NAS: we break *a sharing* in the body

KJV: not *the communion* of the body

INT: we break not *fellowship* of the body

## 2 Corinthians 6:14 N-NFS

GRK: ἢ τίς **κοινωνία** φωτὶ πρὸς

NAS: what *fellowship* has light

KJV: and what *communion* hath light with

INT: or what *fellowship* light with

## 2 Corinthians 8:4 N-AFS

GRK: καὶ τὴν **κοινωνίαν** τῆς διακονίας

NAS: for the favor *of participation* in the support

KJV: and [*take upon us*] *the fellowship* of the ministering

INT: and the *fellowship* of the service

## 2 Corinthians 9:13 N-GFS

GRK: ἀπλότητι τῆς **κοινωνίας** εἰς αὐτοὺς

NAS: and for the liberality *of your contribution* to them and to all,

KJV: for [your] liberal *distribution* unto

INT: generosity of the *participation* toward them

## 2 Corinthians 13:14 N-NFS

GRK: καὶ ἡ **κοινωνία** τοῦ ἁγίου

KJV: and *the communion* of the Holy

INT: and the *fellowship* of the Holy

## Galatians 2:9 N-GFS

GRK: καὶ Βαρνάβα **κοινωνίας** ἵνα ἡμεῖς

NAS: the right hand *of fellowship*, so

KJV: the right hands *of fellowship*; that

INT: and Barnabas *of fellowship* that we [should go]

## Philippians 1:5 N-DFS

GRK: ἐπὶ τῇ **κοινωνίᾳ** ὑμῶν εἰς

NAS: in view *of your participation* in the gospel

KJV: For your *fellowship* in the gospel

INT: for the *partnership* of you in

## Philippians 2:1-2 N-NFS

GRK: εἴ τις **κοινωνία** πνεύματος εἴ

NAS: there is any *fellowship* of the Spirit,

KJV: if any *fellowship* of the Spirit,

INT: if any *fellowship* of [the] Spirit if

## Philippians 3:10 N-AFS

GRK: καὶ τὴν **κοινωνίαν** τῶν παθημάτων

NAS: of His resurrection *and the fellowship* of His sufferings,

KJV: and *the fellowship* of his

INT: and the *fellowship* of the sufferings

## Philemon 1:6 N-NFS

GRK: ὅπως ἡ **κοινωνία** τῆς πίστεώς

NAS: [*and I pray*] that the *fellowship* of your faith

KJV: That *the communication* of thy faith

INT: so that the *fellowship* of the faith

## Hebrews 13:16 N-GFS

GRK: εὐποιίας καὶ **κοινωνίας** μὴ ἐπιλανθάνεσθε

NAS: doing good *and sharing*, for with such

KJV: and *to communicate* forget

INT: [the] good and *of sharing* not be forgetful

## 1 John 1:3 N-AFS

GRK: καὶ ὑμεῖς **κοινωνίαν** ἔχητε μεθ'

NAS: may have *fellowship* with us; and indeed

KJV: also may have *fellowship* with us:

INT: also you *fellowship* might have with

## 1 John 1:3 N-NFS

GRK: καὶ ἡ **κοινωνία** δὲ ἡ

NAS: with us; and indeed *our fellowship* is with the Father,

KJV: truly our *fellowship* [is] with

INT: and the *fellowship* indeed

## 1 John 1:6 N-AFS

GRK: εἶπωμεν ὅτι **κοινωνίαν** ἔχομεν μετ'

NAS: that we have *fellowship* with Him and [yet] walk

KJV: that we have *fellowship* with him,

INT: we should say that *fellowship* we have with

## 1 John 1:7 N-AFS

GRK: τῷ φωτί **κοινωνίαν** ἔχομεν μετ'

NAS: we have *fellowship* with one another,

KJV: we have *fellowship* one with another,

INT: the light *fellowship* we have with

19 Occurrences

# DEVOTED:

**Strong's Greek: 4342. προσκατερέω (proskartereó) — 10 Occurrences**

## Mark 3:9 V-PSA-3S

GRK: ἵνα πλοίαριον προσκατερεῖ αὐτῷ διὰ

NAS: that a boat *should stand ready* for Him because

KJV: a small ship *should wait on* him

INT: that a boat *might wait upon* him on account of

## Acts 1:14 V-PPA-NMP

GRK: πάντες ἦσαν προσκατεροῦντες ὁμοθυμαδὸν τῇ

NAS: with one mind *were continually devoting themselves* to prayer,

INT: all were *steadfastly continuing* with one accord

## Acts 2:42 V-PPA-NMP

GRK: ἦσαν δὲ προσκατεροῦντες τῇ διδαχῇ

NAS: *They were continually devoting themselves* to the apostles'

KJV: they continued *stedfastly* in the apostles'

INT: they were moreover *steadfastly continuing* in the teaching

## Acts 2:46 V-PPA-NMP

GRK: ἡμέραν τε προσκατεροῦντες ὁμοθυμαδὸν ἐν

NAS: Day by day *continuing* with one mind

KJV: And *they, continuing* daily

INT: day and *steadfastly continuing* with one accord in

## Acts 6:4 V-FIA-1P

GRK: τοῦ λόγου προσκατερήσομεν

NAS: *But we will devote ourselves* to prayer

KJV: we *will give ourselves continually* to prayer,

INT: of the word *will steadfastly continue*

### Acts 8:13 V-PPA-NMS

GRK: βαπτισθεὶς ἦν προσκαρτερῶν τῷ Φιλίππῳ

NAS: and after being baptized, *he continued* on with Philip,

INT: having been baptized was *steadfastly continuing* with Philip

### Acts 10:7 V-PPA-GMP

GRK: εὐσεβῆ τῶν προσκαρτερούντων αὐτῷ

NAS: of those *who were his personal attendants*,

KJV: him *continually*;

INT: devout of those *continually waiting* on him

### Romans 12:12 V-PPA-NMP

GRK: τῇ προσευχῇ προσκαρτεροῦντες

NAS: in tribulation, *devoted* to prayer,

KJV: in tribulation; *continuing instant* in prayer;

INT: in prayer *be constant*

### Romans 13:6 V-PPA-NMP

GRK: αὐτὸ τοῦτο προσκαρτεροῦντες

NAS: of God, *devoting themselves* to this

KJV: ministers, *attending continually* upon

INT: this very this thing *attending continually*

### Colossians 4:2 V-PMA-2P

GRK: Τῇ προσευχῇ προσκαρτερεῖτε γρηγοροῦντες ἐν

NAS: *Devote yourselves* to prayer,

KJV: *Continue* in prayer, and watch

INT: In prayer *stedfastly continue* watching in

BE God's QUILT!

\*\*\*Those dismembering the body of Christ reveal their God-hating heart... like Solomon's baby stealing, "cut the baby in half" wicked woman.

\*\*\* Eph. 3:20 = "...try to draw away others after themselves..."

\*\*\* You've got to decide... Do you trust YOUR intuition... or GOD's inspiration? Truth in love says: It's NOT "your wishes" but God's Word that really defines reality.

Hebrews 11... Acts 2... Macedonians... = Church

What can separate us from the love of God... (vertical).... If John 17 & Acts 2 are true, BOTH vertically AND horizontally, then what does Hebrews 11 & 1st John 2:19 tell us to believe, biblically, about those whose horizontal love is shallow, cowardice, & inconsistent with the love of their lips? Answer: (per Jesus), see John 14:15 AND Christ's claim that: "you will know them by their fruit" & "by your love for one another, they will know that you are My disciples."

Woe to those who run to Ziklag... AND woe to those who run the "religious resorts" in Ziklag!

Invisible costs are not really invisible... they just show up & deplete other investment opportunities/line-items...

Have I suddenly become your enemy for sharing the truth...

We will smell like death to some...

Church is NOT the "place" where we go to put on plastic-piety, superficially socialize &/or transfer religious information... No. Instead, and in stark spiritual contrast, Church is the "people" - the called out, set apart, Spirit-filled, born again, blessed slaves of the LORD Jesus Christ - a.k.a. the "chosen people" that God gathers for transformation --- an eternal transformation, made up of daily dedication, loving calibration & missional celebration.

"Churches that minimize or marginalize biblical community/'koinonia', which constitutes active disobedience, are at best, unhealthy & misguided, "spiritual silos." Such church structures are sadly limited to exactly that... "church structures." At worst, such politically correct, consumer-sensitive-bodies are superficially appealing & naturally attractive to both the world & the flesh. Rather than the supernaturally unified, "flowing" interconnectivity that the Father intends for His family of Faith, koinonia-neglecting gatherings of self-professed Christian people, **defy the Christ & deny the Church that they claim.**

By contrast, true Christians champion their Christ, in large part, by BE-ing His Church, for all the world to see, walking in worship & working at our witness, all in the culturally contrasting context of Kingdom koinonia.

Neglected, Deflected or Defected koinonia is an epidemic in cultural church in the west! – JDP

AUGUST 20, 1995

# The Happiest Days of Heaven

- 
- Resource by  
John Piper

- Scripture: Luke 15:1–10 Topic: Evangelism

I tell you that in the same way [the same as in this parable] *there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents, than over ninety-nine righteous persons who need no repentance . . . (10)* In the same way [the same as in this parable] I tell you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents.

And I can see Jesus looking around on the scribes and Pharisees and on the tax-gatherers and sinners. The moment is hushed. And from face to face he sees something glorious and something terrible—perhaps he sees it happening even in this room right now.

## Something Terrible

On some faces the question mark begins to harden and narrow into a tight, resistant exclamation point of NO. NO. Nobody can talk like that in a Barnes and Noble world. Nobody—parable or no parable, we can tell what you are saying; we know this presumption and arrogance—nobody can claim what you are claiming. That God Almighty, in you, is seeking and finding his lost sheep. That the Old Testament prophecy of Ezekiel 34 is being fulfilled in you. ("Then I will set over them one shepherd, My servant David, and he will feed them; he will feed them himself and be their shepherd. And I, the LORD, will be their God, and My servant David will be prince among them; I, the LORD, have spoken," [Ezekiel 34:23–24](#).) That you are God's promised Messiah. The Savior. That when you receive sinners and they repent, they are part of God's flock—because they're in fellowship with you! That God is seeking them in you and rejoicing over them when they come to you, which is the same thing as coming to him. We know what you are getting at. And we think it's blasphemy (in a Jewish setting), or preposterous and arrogant (in a modern, pluralistic setting).

That's one thing Jesus probably saw on some faces. And it probably made tears come to his eyes as he began his next story—longer, even more heart-felt, and ending with a word to the elder brothers with the hard exclamation points of NO on their faces.

## Something Glorious

But he saw another kind of face around the room. He's just been condemned: This man receives sinners and eats with them. He has just answered: when I do this, it is like a shepherd seeking and finding a lost sheep and a woman seeking and finding a lost coin. And they have just heard him say that the joyful celebration of the shepherd and the woman is a picture of the joyful celebration of heaven over one of these repentant sinners who is eating with me.

And on some of their faces now Jesus sees the light of worship rising. We hear you. You are the love of God seeking and finding what belongs to God. You are the heart of God. You are the arm of God reaching out. You are the crook of the Shepherd's staff in the wilderness. You are the shoulders of God where the sheep gets carried home. You are the lamp in the woman's house. You are the broom with its bristles in the dirt of our Barnes and Noble floor. And this meal right now, where you receive sinners and eat with us, this is the party, isn't it? Or at least the beginning of the party. And in your receiving us, God is receiving us. And in your joy we see what God is like. He is happy that we have come home. We have seen him. We have seen the Father.

Two kinds of faces in a pluralistic world where Jesus says—with parable and actions—"I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father but by me" (John 14:6). Which is your face?

## Three Applications

Let me close with three brief applications.

### Repentance

- Def.: A turning from sin to embrace Christ as God's all-satisfying manifestation—is necessary, but it's God's aggressive initiative in Jesus that brings it about.

Verse 7, "There will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents . . . "

Repentance is in the parable. But what we see at the table is Jesus receiving sinners and eating with them. Jesus is the seeking heart of God going out after sinners and winning our repentance. We *must* repent. But he has not left us alone in this. He has taken bold initiatives to reach us and change us. This message today and your being

here is one of them. It is no accident. God is here in this word and is speaking. And his word is this: come to the table, repent. Open your eyes and see that the banquet of being with Jesus is worth the cost of following Jesus (Luke 14:16–24, 25–33).

God

- In spite of his majesty and holiness and universal power and greatness, he astonishingly cares for individual human beings one at a time.

There was one sheep—out of a hundred—and one coin—out of ten. God has a universe to run and galaxies to uphold and atomic particles to manage and governments to rule in his providence. But there is not much in the Bible that says, all heaven rejoices over orbits of the stars or the rise of kings or a global women's conference in China. It's true that God takes pleasure in all that he does. But Jesus is clearly referring to something special in these parables. When one sinner repents, there is a special joy in heaven. God cares for individuals one at a time.

The Ninety-Nine

- Finally, consider the worship of the ninety-nine who are already in the fold. Jesus says there is more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over these ninety-nine. Does this mean that God does not delight in our worship? Does it mean that personal evangelism is a more ultimate goal than worship is?

No. John 4:23 says that the very meaning of evangelism is that God is seeking worshipers. The lost sheep is lost because he worships something more than God. The reason God rejoices so much over the winning of the lost is not because God doesn't have tremendous delight in worship, but because he delights most in the worship of the *whole* family. If we content ourselves with our limited worship experience,

without wanting to include the lost sheep who don't have this joy, then the God we are dealing with in worship is not the God of Luke 15.

Therefore, for the sake of worshiping the one true God for who he really is, we are being called as a church—in a Barnes and Noble world of diversity and pluralism—to leave the ninety-nine and receive sinners and eat with them.

David Platt: “Radical Together”

*“If you and I want our lives to count for God’s purpose in the world, we need to begin with a commitment to God’s people in the Church. God has called us to lock arms with one another in single-minded, death-defying obedience to one objective; the declaration of His Gospel... for the demonstration of His glory to all nations. This is God’s design for His people, and it is worth giving our lives to.”*

“You and I can easily deceive ourselves into thinking that dedication to church programs equals devotion to kingdom purposes.”

“What is the best way to advance the gospel from our community to the ends of the earth?”

“We are prone to exalt our work over God’s will, our dreams over God’s desires, and our plans over God’s priorities.”

“Professing Christians in North America give on average 2.5% to their church... of that small amount, on average 2% (of 2.5%) goes to missional work outside the U.S.... That means we Americans keep 97.5% of what the Lord gives us, and then, we keep 98% of what we do give back, for our own domestic ministries.... When you do the math, that

means that missional giving outside our borders is literally, on average, 5 cents for every \$100 earned by a professing American Christian.

“It doesn’t take a big budget to make a large impact!”

“The Gospel that saves us FROM work, saves us TO work.” (Ephesians 2:10)

*“Unleashing radical people into the world requires the gospel as our foundation and our motivation. You and I must embrace a gospel that both saves us from work and saves us to work... We live sacrificially, not because we feel guilty, but because we have been loved greatly... and now we find satisfaction in sacrificial love for others.”*

Gospel-driven obedience produces Gospel-filled joy.

The Gospel is the reason for radical living!

WARNING: We must avoid becoming churches filled with Ashley’s who are continually working hard to earn the approval of God, while ultimately wearing out in their assignments from God... Pastors must be particularly careful here... Yes, the Gospel saves us to work, but we must be careful to plant every challenge, and every exhortation solidly in the soul of gospel grace.... We must also avoid becoming churches full of Andy’s who are constantly defending the Gospel while rarely demonstrating it. Again, pastors, take caution. The people you and I lead in the church will never be what they cannot see... Those who espouse sound doctrine... should embody selfless devotion.”

**In our lives and in the church, we are never without revelation from God. At all times you and I have His message to us in all its power, authority, clarity, and might. We don’t have to work to come up with a word from God; we simply have to trust the Word He has already given us.**

**The Word of God will accomplish the work of God among the people of God.**

We don't have to engineer something entertaining to win an audience.. The Word is sufficient to hold the attention of God's people & satisfying enough to capture their affections..

Trust this Word.. It forms and fulfills, motivates and mobilizes, equips and empowers, leads and directs the people of God in the Church for the plan of God in the world....