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English Sermons

God's Formula for Fellowship

(Genesis 2:18)

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Image of God

- Ability to relate to God and one another.
- Ability to reason and have intellect will, and emotion
- Morally accountable to God and each other.
- Capable of having the communicable attributes of God, like,
 - Purity: Holiness, Righteousness, Justice,
 - Love: Patience, Kindness, Grace
 - Integrity: Genuineness, Truthfulness, Faithfulness

God Ordained Fellowship

God ordained marriage or fellowship between husband and wife (Gen. 2:24)

- Therefore a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and they shall become one flesh.

God also laid the basis for the larger fellowship of the whole human family.

- Mal. 2:10- Have we not all one Father? Has not one God created us? Why do we deal treacherously with one another?
- Acts 17:26- And He has made from one blood every nation of men to dwell on all the face of the earth, and has determined their pre-appointed times and the boundaries of their dwellings

Man Sinned and Destroyed Fellowship

- God asked Adam “Have you eaten from the tree of which I commanded you that you should not eat?”
- Adam replied, “The woman whom You gave to be with me, she gave me of the tree, and I ate.”
- Eve replied, “The serpent deceived me, and I ate.”
- The blaming game continues...

Christ Restored the Fellowship

- **1 Corinthians 1:9-** God is faithful, by whom you were called into the fellowship of His Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.
- **1 John 1:1-3-** That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked upon, and our hands have handled, concerning the Word of life— the life was manifested, and we have seen, and bear witness, and declare to you that eternal life which was with the Father and was manifested to us— that which we have seen and heard we declare to you, that you also may have fellowship with us; and truly our fellowship is with the Father and with His Son Jesus Christ.

How to Restore Fellowship

- **Accept the Fellowship**
 - 1 John 1:1-3; 1 Corinthians 1:9
- **Guard the Fellowship**
 - 1 John 3:13-15; Ephesians 4:1-5
- **Extend the Fellowship**
 - 2 Corinthians 5:17-21

Accepting the Fellowship (1)

Restoring the Image of God

- **1 Corinthians 11:1** Be imitators of me, as I am of Christ.
- **1 John 2:6** Whoever says he abides in Him ought to walk in the same way in which He walked.
- **2 Corinthians 3:18** But we all, with unveiled face, beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, just as by the Spirit of the Lord.

Accepting the Fellowship (2)

- Attributes of God
 - **Romans 8:28-29 ESV** And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose. For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be **conformed to the image of his Son**, in order that he might be the firstborn among many brothers.
 - **Ephesians 4:22-24 WEB** that you put away, as concerning your former way of life, the old man, that grows corrupt after the lusts of deceit; 23 and that you be renewed in the spirit of your mind, 24 and put on the new man, who **in the likeness of God** has been created in **righteousness and holiness of truth**.
- Moral Accountability to God

Guarding the Fellowship

Ephesians 4:1-6, therefore, the prisoner of the Lord, beseech you to walk worthy of the calling with which you were called, with all lowliness and gentleness, with longsuffering, bearing with one another in love, endeavoring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called in one hope of your calling; one Lord, one faith, one baptism; one God and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in you all.

Extending the Fellowship

Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new

Now all things are of God, who has reconciled us to Himself through Jesus Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation,

God was in Christ reconciling the world to Himself, not imputing their trespasses to them, and has committed to us the word of reconciliation

Now then, we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God were pleading through us: we implore you on Christ's behalf, be reconciled to God.

For He made Him who knew no sin to be sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him (2 Corinthians 5:17-21)

Challenges

- If you have not accepted the invitation to have fellowship with God and with Christ – Would you like to accept it right now?
- If you have already accepted the invitation, please make sure you are conforming to His image. You should also guard the fellowship and extending it to others
- Do you have any broken fellowship(s) / relationship(s) you would like to repair or restore?

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